

THE Country GUIDE

DR J S SHOEMAKER
DEPT OF AGRICULTURE
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GENERAL SCIENCE

THREE DAY LOAN

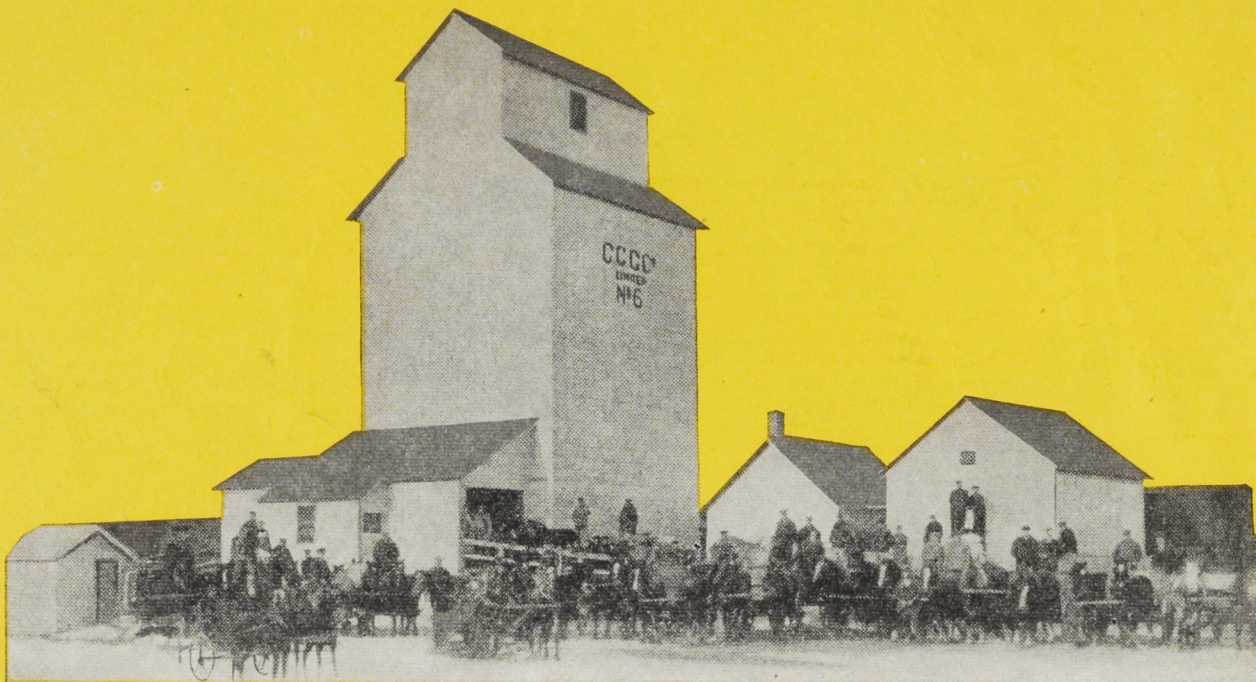


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FEBRUARY, 1945

T Schintz



Friendly Farmer-Supporters --- Old and Young

Above is shown a scene outside one of the first farmer-owned elevators in western Canada. The picture was taken about 1908. The farmers shown have just delivered their grain to a Grain Growers Grain Company elevator (now United Grain Growers Limited).

The horse-drawn wagons are a far remove from the power-driven trucks of today. So is the standard of elevator service available! But these particular grain deliveries provided a very special sort of thrill for these farmers. Why? Because it was literally the first time in western Canada that it had been possible for a farmer to deliver his grain to a farmer-owned elevator.

A warm, friendly welcome awaited these first farmers to deliver grain to their own elevator.

Farmers who were not then shareholders of the newly formed Company also appreciated the courtesy, service, accurate grading and the maximum price they received for their grain. . . It represented a new deal for western farmers.

Today at U.G.G. elevators friendly service, courtesy, fair dealing and the best possible value in farm supplies is a bedrock principle of this farmer-owned Company. It has made many thousands of good friends and neighbors for United Grain Growers Limited.

As for 38 years, this will continue to be the Company's policy. The Pioneer placed his confidence in U.G.G. as a farmer-owned Company having the best interest of the farmer at heart. The farmers of Today and the young farmers of Tomorrow know that they can do the same.



A Typical Group of Today's Young Farmers . . .
Friendly Supporters of U.G.G.

UNITED GRAIN GROWERS LTD

WINNIPEG

CALGARY

EDMONTON

SASKATOON

B.C. Co-operation Surveyed

It has meant a lot to the producers of the Coast Province

By CHAS. L. SHAW



ACTIVITIES of the co-operatives in British Columbia have been receiving a good deal of attention recently as a result of the survey being made by the McDermott Royal Commission, and the trend of the evidence is that this form of consumer-producer operation has had widespread benefits for the people of the west coast.

The co-operatives have been instrumental in increasing the earnings of many branches of farming and fishing, and it is doubtful how some forms of production would be able to function profitably without their services. The fruit growers of the Okanagan, for instance, have operated in a co-operative way for many years and the rise of the co-operative movement there has been synonymous with success. Before the growers started to co-operate effectively in their merchandising program the valley's fruit markets were chaotic. Today, the growers are enjoying more stabilized markets and better returns than ever before. The same applies to the dairy farmers of the Fraser valley.

The co-operative movement has made its most spectacular progress on the west coast in recent years in the fishing industry. Fish liver plants, canneries and fresh and frozen processing organizations are now being operated on a co-op basis in Prince Rupert, Victoria and Vancouver and they now represent a business than can be reckoned in millions of dollars.

Bogus Co-ops and Income Tax

However, leaders of bona-fide co-operatives have viewed with some anxiety the growth of what they call bogus co-ops—companies originally organized on a joint stock basis which have adopted the co-operative framework with a view to evading taxes. It is hoped that the present investigation may be instrumental in weeding these out, as one of the effects of their operation has been to give the whole co-op system a bad name in some quarters.

The fruit growers plan to hold one of their biggest annual conventions this month, with many important issues for discussion. Forty-five resolutions were on the agenda before meeting time in Kelowna. Representatives of 25 locals representing some 3,000 producers are planning to attend.

The resolutions indicate a continuing effort on the part of the growers to meet their problems realistically and plan for the future. One matter of contention is the wholesale waste of cull apples by the Okanagan packing plants, and Tree Fruits, Ltd., the growers' marketing agency, will be asked to find some effective way of disposing of this produce.

The Intrusive Aliens

The Summerland local, which has always been apprehensive regarding the encroachment of foreigners and which was consistently stubborn in its resistance to Japanese farmers, is asking for constructive action on the part of the government to prevent aliens from acquiring agricultural lands. The government will be asked—if the resolution is adopted—to buy up all productive land vacated by retiring farmers and make it available for returned service men and their families.

Another question is establishment of canneries in the Okanagan. The Osoyoos local is asking whether the existing canneries are making the fullest possible use of soft fruits. It is also asking for a thorough survey of the question of fruit imports—fresh and manufactured. Increase in cold storage facilities is also being urged, despite the fact that recent expansion in this connection has pro-

vided accommodation for some 3,250,000 boxes.

There was a critical shortage of boxes last summer in the fruit country of British Columbia and the association will probably go on record in favor of a more far-sighted supply policy. Pro-rationing of available boxes so that one district will not suffer more than another is also being suggested by one local.

Oliver delegates planned to take up the question of insect pests, and they were to ask that trees in private lots in town and country be made subject to compulsory spraying. Where the owner refused to co-operate, steps should be taken to have the trees destroyed so as to prevent spread of the pest to adjacent areas.

Then there is the hardy annual—establishment of a purchasing board within the fruit growers' organization. Nothing has so far been done in this connection, although resolutions favoring action have been introduced annually for the past six years.

Pooling and selling of apples for dehydration should be continued by Tree Fruits, Ltd., is the opinion of delegates, who believe that this form of processing is here to stay and should be encouraged as one of the best means of eliminating surplus.

Of general interest was the resolution offered by one local seeking ways and means of education as to the best means of handling and ripening of fruits in the course of distribution and in the homes of consumers.

Seed Growing and Nut Culture

Seed growing has become one of the most profitable branches of farming in the west coast province, as evidence published frequently in this column has demonstrated. Now the University of British Columbia is giving recognition to this development by establishing a special seed growing course.

Not only are vegetable and flower seeds being grown successfully, but considerable progress has been made in producing and selling flax seed, sugar beet seed, grass seed, flower bulbs and so on. The business represented about \$2,000,000 in returns to the growers last year.

Another culture which has advanced rapidly is the production of nuts, for which Vancouver Island and the Fraser valley appear to be particularly well suited. Nut orchards now comprise 10 or more acres. The war's influence in shutting off outside sources of supply has been a stimulating factor and the economic results of the past two or three years have encouraged growers to believe that they may be able to hold the markets won in the war years. Trees planted when the demand first began to materialize are now coming into production, and the output of nuts should be substantial this season. English walnuts, filberts, almonds and chestnuts are the most popular varieties.

In the Fraser valley alone more than 100 acres are now in nut orchards, and almost invariably the growers have been well rewarded.

Science on the Ground

Okanagan growers are suggesting that a science laboratory be established for a study of tree fruit problems. As the government has shown much interest in research in the forest and fisheries and mining industries in the past, such a step should be in line with its policy, and no venture of its kind should be more far-reaching in results.

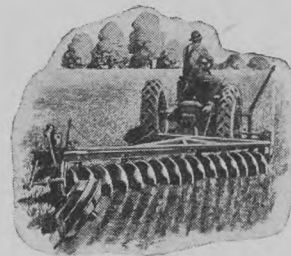
What is believed to be the first carload of dressed poultry to be shipped from Vancouver Island rolled out of the Cowichan valley recently on its way to the United States army. The deal was handled by the progressive Cowichan Poultrymen's Association, which last season shipped 47,000 pounds of poultry of all grades. The association plans to establish a co-operative poultry killing and grading plant at Duncan.



Tribute to the men in the Royal Canadian Navy



Royal Canadian Navy Photo



TO THE MEN in the Royal Canadian Navy goes a large share of the honor and gratitude of the United Nations.

Escorting convoys in the North Atlantic... serving in the Mediterranean and the Aleutian Islands... and manning flotillas in the troop landings in Africa, Sicily and France, these men have played a magnificent part in shaping history.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Right now the most important assignment of the Crucible Steel Company of America is the manufacture of many fighting tools for allied victory... high explosive and armor-piercing shells of all dimensions, big guns for war and merchant ships and technically precise periscope tubes for submarines. In addition to these, Crucible also supplies hundreds of thousands of tons of quality steels to other companies for the manufacture of many important fighting weapons.

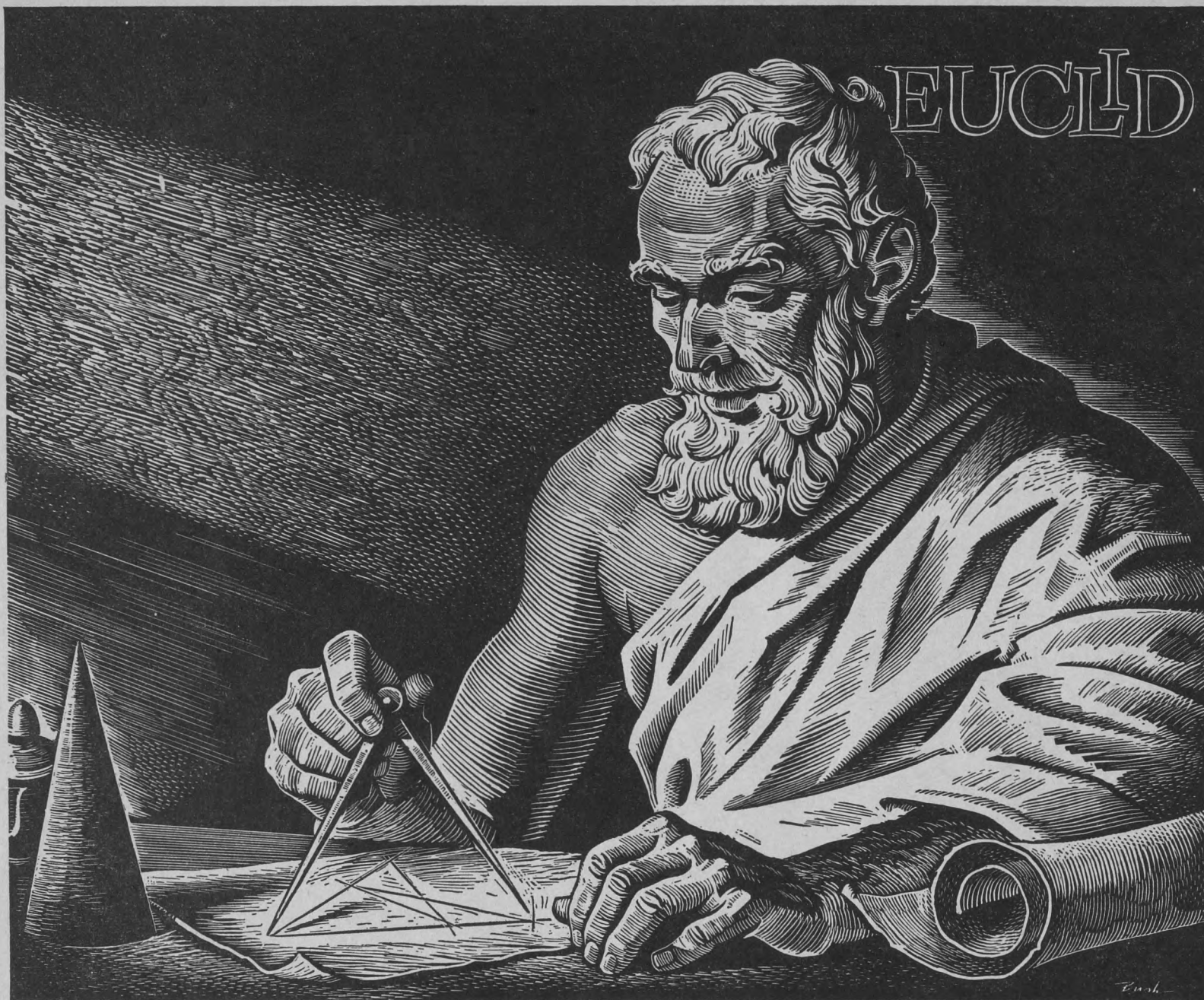
Workers at Crucible are proud of the war-time job they are doing. They are proud also of the job they have done in producing increased quantities of La Belle Disk Blades for the "Food Front"... both in Canada and the United States. Demands for these blades have been unusually heavy, and Crucible is making every effort to distribute them equitably.



CRUCIBLE STEEL COMPANY of America

Agricultural Division

405 LEXINGTON AVENUE . . . NEW YORK 17, N. Y.



He took the Universe apart

Euclid, brilliant Greek mathematician, explored new realms of science, and analyzed the universe into points, lines, angles, curves, surfaces and solids. His Elements of Geometry, has been in use, practically unchanged, through 2000 years. New worlds of knowledge were opened through Euclid's research.

RESEARCH still goes forward. Twenty-four years ago industrial research with Nickel was greatly intensified. The Nickel laboratories in Canada, the United States and Great Britain have since discovered hundreds of new ways in which Nickel and its alloys can be used to make better products. This research has been a valuable aid in the

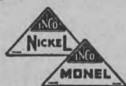
great expansion of Canada's Nickel industry.

When the war is won, these laboratories will again direct their efforts toward new peacetime uses for Canadian Nickel. They will be aided by the great store of knowledge gained during the war.

Canadian engineers and metallurgists, who are constantly seeking better materials with which to make better products, are invited to make use of this store of information obtained through the years of Nickel research.

Thus will science and industry, working together, broaden the use of Nickel, and so help keep the Canadian Nickel mines and plants operating and men employed.

FORWARD THROUGH RESEARCH



Canadian Nickel

THE INTERNATIONAL NICKEL COMPANY OF CANADA, LIMITED, 25 KING STREET WEST, TORONTO

TIME

Marches Past

THE Country GUIDE

The Tidal Wave

AFTER a build-up of five months, during which the only activity of importance was in Roumania and Hungary, and the Baltic countries and Finland, the Russian steam roller resumed its journey Berlinwards on the Polish front. As a display of overwhelming military might nothing like this new offensive had ever been witnessed in military history. Three Red armies poured across the Vistula, behind which they had been preparing. Further north other forces pressed into East Prussia. The front of this offensive was 450 miles in length from the Niemen River to the Carpathians.

Across the Polish plains gains up to 40 miles a day, and up to 150 miles a week, were made. Warsaw, a city of ruins, after more than five years of occupation, was by-passed on the north and south and the Germans fled from the trap. Krakow fell. One branch of the tidal wave swept north from Warsaw and isolated East Prussia, breeding ground of German war lords, entrapping 200,000 German troops. Tannenberg and the whole Masurian Lake district, the scene of Hindenburg's and Ludendorff's first great victory over the Russians in 1914, were over run. Hindenburg's mortal remains had been removed and his tomb blown up by the retreating Germans. Another stream flowed eastward, enveloped Poznan, last great centre that side of Berlin and jabbed into Brandenburg, while to the north Pomerania was invaded. In East Prussia Königsberg was invested, while far to the south Breslau, in Silesia, was engulfed.

As the month closes the Russian bear is literally clawing at the gates of Berlin. It has reached the Oder River, only 40 miles away. There seems to be no question now that it will be the Red Army which will march up the Unter den Linden. After its four years of agony and glory, the other Allied Nations will not grudge it that honor.

In World War I

THE show on the Western Front, it may be well to remind ourselves, is on a very reduced scale compared with its counterpart during the last war. Willson Woodside pointed out in Saturday Night that in the tremendous struggle there in 1918, the French alone had more divisions engaged than the total of American, British, French and German divisions fighting on the Siegfried Line when von Rundstedt staged his December offensive. Compared with the two German onslaughts of March and April in 1918, von Rundstedt's offensive was a rather minor affair. In the last summer of World War I, a total of 500 divisions was engaged on both side of the Western Front. This compares with an estimated total of 140 divisions on the same front in December.

Churchill has stated in his book, *The Crisis*, that in the great March of-

fensive of 1918, the Germans hurled 120 divisions at 58 British. In 40 days Haig lost a quarter of his effective force; 14,803 officers and 288,066 men, including nearly 90,000 prisoners. German losses were much heavier: 12,807 officers and 335,962 men. Churchill pointed out that it was while our forces were suffering what looked like great reverses that for the first time in that war they were inflicting more casualties than they were suffering.

The Meeting of the Big Three

AS January closes it appears that Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin are meeting, probably somewhere in southern Russia. A note of apprehension is appearing in the American press regarding the strong position of Stalin due to the spectacular triumphs of the Red Army. Dorothy Thompson has pointed out that in the Free German Committee, under General von Seydlitz, organized among prisoners of war, the Russians have a force of 200,000 Germans indoctrinated and trained, to assist in policing and governing whatever share of Germany they will occupy when Nazism falls. The British and Americans have no such force of men who know Germany to assist them. The result may be that when the Allied Armies finally withdraw, the Russian occupied zone will be the best organized and will then proceed to dominate the rest of Germany.

likely prefer that Germany would not emerge as a communistic state. German ruthlessness combined with German genius for organization, together with the closer association of Germans with the Western world than Russians can claim, might eventually mean that Germany would achieve a predominance over Russia, or at least a position strong enough that German arrogance would again become too assertive. Statesmen must look far ahead, and it may not be that Russia will have a succession of rulers of genius, such as Lenin and Stalin.

At the Teheran conference the Big Three decided on a co-ordination of military strategy that has borne rich fruit in victory on the field. At this epochal meeting will be laid the foundations on which the structure of peace will be erected. It may well prove to be a tremendous moment in the long perspective of history.

Capital Hopping

THE progress of the Allied Nations since June 1, may be perhaps best illustrated by listing the capitals that have fallen to their armies during the nine months. Here is the list:

Rome, Italy	June 4
Vilna, Lithuania	July 13
Bucharest, Roumania	Aug. 23
Paris, France	Aug. 25
Brussels, Belgium	Sept. 4
Luxembourg, Luxembourg	Sept. 15
Sofia, Bulgaria	Sept. 17
Helsinki, Finland	Sept. 19
Tallinn, Estonia	Sept. 22
Athens, Greece	Oct. 14
Riga, Latvia	Oct. 19
Belgrade, Yugoslavia	Oct. 20
Tirana, Albania	Nov. 19
Warsaw, Poland	Jan. 17

Fourteen capitals redeemed from the Nazis in nine months, a capital and a half per month, is an impressive performance. Hitler's Fortress Europa has been fast dwindling to Fortress Germania. There remains Amsterdam, Holland; Oslo, Norway; Copenhagen, Denmark; Prague, Czechoslovakia; Budapest, Hungary and Vienna, Austria. Budapest is enveloped and as good as taken. Whether Berlin will be

Bolsheviks, by liquidating 2,000,000 of the upper classes, including thousands of intellectuals, had set their country back a thousand years. The best blood lines had been severed. What was overlooked was that inherent ability is widely dispersed among a population mass. The problem is to discover it, develop it and channel it into fields where it can best express itself. In this the Russians have been superbly successful and the process has been assisted by the burning zeal of a new ideology. For example, probably not one of Russia's commanders would have risen above a lieutenantcy under the czarist system, yet these sons of the common people have met and outgeneralled the specially bred race of Prussian war lords.

In the early days of the Russian front about the only Soviet commanders mentioned in news despatches were Timoshenko, Voroshilov and Budenny. Of these only Voroshilov is named in the 1940 edition of Gunther's *Inside Europe*. Here is a list of the commanders and armies chiefly involved in the present offensive; Marching west into East Prussia is the Third White Russian Army, under Cherniakovsky. Striking up from north of Warsaw and cutting off East Prussia in the region of Danzig is the Second White Russian Army under Rokossovsky. Cutting in south of Warsaw and leading the spearhead pointed at Berlin is the First White Russian Army under Zhukov, a great field commander who won the undeclared war against Japan and who may be known to history as the conqueror of Berlin. South of Zhukov's army is the First Ukrainian Army under Konev. It entered Silesia from the north east, flowed around Breslau and has invested it from the west. These constitute the armies and their commanders who have staged this huge 1945 winter offensive.

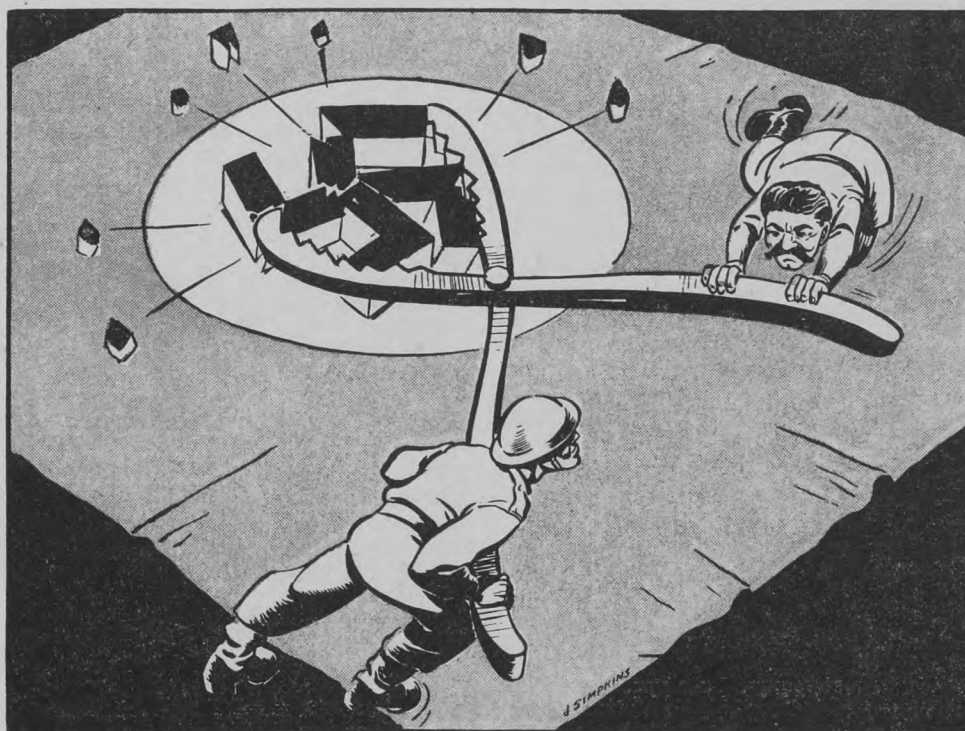
Going on south we come to the Fourth Ukrainian Army under Petrov, straddling the Carpathian Mountains and pressing into Czechoslovakia. In Northern Hungary is the Second Ukrainian army under Malinovsky, while south of that the Third Ukrainian Army under Tolbukin is operating in the direction of Austria and is in contact with Tito, the Yugoslav patriot leader. In the Baltic countries, the name of Bagramian stands out.

It may be said with some confidence that the discovery and development of native talent is the greatest achievement of the Russian system. Certainly it should be the objective of any educational system to channel the youth of a country into the spheres of activity in which they will be the most useful.

The Stilwell Road

THE trucks are running on the Burma Road again. The ring around China has been broken. Again the materials of war can pass by land into that beleaguered country. North from Chitigong, on the estuary of the Ganges, a railway runs up country to Ledo, near the Burmese-Indian border. Across mountain ranges a highway has been cut to join up with the Burma Road, a couple of hundred miles north of its southern terminus at Lashio, where it connected with the railway through Mandalay to the port of Rangoon, territory still held by the Japs.

Chiang Kai-Shek asked that the name of the new highway be changed from the Ledo Road to the Stilwell Road. General Stilwell, Chiang's American military adviser didn't get along with the generalissimo, who had him recalled. But he has paid this compliment to the peppery American commander. And so the Stilwell Road it is, built across valleys, over mountain ranges, literally torn out of the rocky sides of precipitous cliffs. Now the Burma Road has a southern outlet again.



In the Jaws of the Nut Cracker.

This may mean that Germany will eventually be drawn within the orbit of Russian influence.


On the other hand it has been pointed out that the Russians have not been aggressive in forcing communism on the countries they have occupied. Furthermore, some have held that Stalin would

taken or by-passed remains to be seen.

Russian Commanders

IT was Victor Hugo who spoke of "the accessibility of every function to every aptitude." That sentence will bear an evening's contemplation. It was said after the Russian Revolution that the

The Yapping Yodler



unscathed. But the mouse was securely trapped under the coyote's pads, and the wild dog reached down his muzzle with infinite caution, snuffed deeply, then quickly shifted one paw and suddenly snapped his keen teeth on a part of the grass clump. That

done, he broke away from the awkward bunch-footed stand, casually nosed the mouse out of the grass and half closed his eyes as he chewed and swallowed the relished morsel. Then the coyote sat down, yawned widely, and suddenly his eyes fastened on me. Instantly the animal was streaking away, a tawny blur through the screening willows. A moment, and I saw him come to a halt on a ridge crest about three hundred yards away. He glanced back at me, and even at that distance I could catch something of the mockery in those yellow eyes. And there was a decided taunt in the yapping yodel he flung skywards as he enumerated all my human frailties for the benefit of every coyote within hearing. Next second he vanished like a wraith into the dusk and my best stalking failed to reveal his whereabouts.

And there you have him: pup, hunter, clown, epicure, speedster, vocalist, and ghost; the most versatile bad-actor in the West!

EVERYONE knows the coyote, but how much do we know about him? Most folks say he's a wicked lot, yet fruit farmers protest that he should be protected; sportsmen wail that they're devilish hard to hunt, and unarmed farmers tell of seeing dozens at close range. All are agreed that he's one smart animal—some say the reason the fox is a traditional red in color is because he's continually blushing for shame, knowing how dumb he is compared to his cousin the coyote! Trappers assure us that coyotes are just about the craftiest pelts-on-the-hoof that they go after. Old time Indians called the animal the spirit-dog and accredited him with supernatural powers. Newcomers to the West shudder at the eery chorus produced by the moon-howling coyotes, while old-timers cock an appreciative ear and rather enjoy the serenade. And every last one of us will have to freely admit that the coyote is definitely here to stay, thriving in our rural midst, and laughing up his furry elbow at our vigorous efforts to wipe him out by means of bullets and traps, snares, poison, dogs, and muttered curses. He's a picturesque fixture in our western land, and since the advent of the farmer to North America and the consequent spreading of the mice hordes, the crafty wild dog has romped far beyond his original range and now cheerfully inhabits every corner of the settled continent.

Here in western Canada we have the *Canis laprans*, one of the largest of the clan of twelve or more distinct types of coyotes. Pronounce the name coy-o-tee if you wish to be correct, but say ki-oot if you want to give it the western twist. Cree Indians call him *mis-tah-chaw-guns*, the Stoney dub him *so-na-tonka*, and in the Chinook dialect he is *le-loo*. Some whites refer to him as the prairie wolf, and others, such as raisers of fat poultry, call him a collection of names which censorship regulations prohibit listing in detail.

But actually, the coyote doesn't de-

The crafty coyote thrives with Settlement and is increasing in numbers

By KERRY WOOD

pend on poultry, nor sheep, nor the occasional new-born calf for a living, although all these domestic delectables sometimes find their way on to his menu. Favorite and staple coyote fare is the mouse, with rabbits second in importance, and gophers and other ground squirrels third. He'll also eat game birds and other kind, including the eggs and young, plus frogs, snakes, any fish he can snatch from shallow water, large insects such as grasshoppers, beetles, and grubs, all the edible berries he can reach, mushrooms, certain greens, some nuts, carrion of any description, and big game such as deer, moose calves, antelope, and mountain sheep whenever he and a group of his fellows can combine to bag it. In other words, he'll eat anything that's edible. Despite the howl there will be to the contrary, it is safe to say that the farmer's poultry and young stock do not provide coyotes with enough meat to live on—though it must be admitted that the animals' occasional depredations cost North American farmers hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. But in actual fact coyotes get most of their food quite honestly, by hunting it down in the wilds. And in regions where fruit raising is the chief farm industry, some folks believe the coyote more than earns an honor place on the economic roll-call by helping to keep the tree-girdling mice and rabbits in check.

If you like technical details, here's the coyote vital statistics. Adult male specimens have a total over-all length of four feet and weigh an average of 35 to 40 pounds, the adult females being somewhat shorter and from five to eight pounds lighter in weight. They have 42 teeth, with large canines and a special meat-cutting edge on one of the premolars. The hair is long and thick, the color a tawny grey and black above, faded yellow or whitish underparts, and both sexes are identical in pelage. The pelt color varies considerably with the locality and subspecies, there being a slaty edition in the mountains and also a very pale type found on the American desert. The animals mate in March in western Canada, and the young, averaging four or five to a litter, are born the latter end of May, the period of gestation being about sixty days.

Some say that coyotes pair for life but this has not been definitely proved as yet. The cubs are born blind, open their eyes eight to ten days after birth, and start eating solids a month later. The youngsters leave the home-den during the autumn—probably chased out by the mother, though the family will frequently run in a pack all winter for group hunting. Occasionally several family packs band together when small game hunting is poor, and groups of fifteen, twenty, and more will then try to run down deer or young stock, relying on weight of numbers rather than

on any individual prowess to do their killing. Their running speed is phenomenal; over a mile or more of hot chase they can average around twenty-five miles-per-hour, with probably faster speeds for short spurts. Coyotes often hunt in pairs when seeking speedy game like jack rabbits, and they are thoroughly familiar with the jack's habit of running in a large circle: one coyote chases the jack while the other hides near the spot where the jack was jumped, and when the chase circles back to this spot the second coyote leaps out and presses the chase while its mate takes a breather and waits for another turn, thus wearing out the far speedier rabbit. Two or more coyotes will frequently join forces to beat a willow thicket or poplar bluff for varying hares, better known as snowshoe rabbits, and one hunter hides downwind while the other coyote drives the game towards its teammate. The animal nabbing the victim seems to have a slight prior claim on first bite out of the meal, but the assisting animal or animals make sure of a share.

WHEN surfeited with food coyotes have been known to play with a captured mouse in much the same manner as a cat, though usually they kill their victim first. The play takes the form of tossing the mouse high into the air and catching it in their jaws, shaking it vigorously in mock fury, and sometimes two will make a bone of playful contention over the morsel and indulge in a hilarious tussle for the prize. It is amusing to watch a playfully inclined coyote hunting grasshoppers: probably when the animal actually wants the hoppers it stalks them properly, but when feeling spry the coyote seems to delight in jumping a hopper and then chasing wildly after the fleeing insect, leaping into the air and trying to snatch the hopper from high. As said, this looks like and probably is merely a merry game of fun, and should not be confused with serious hunting tactics. A hungry coyote is a wary, skillful hunter, infinitely patient and willing to indulge in a hundred yard belly-to-ground stalk for a meal. And never forget the fact that a lot of their hunting is for mice and gophers harmful to agriculture's welfare, and it may be that coyotes actually wipe off their poultry stealing and game killing debits by their good work in providing us with a constant check on the rodent hordes.

Good or bad, the coyote thrives with settlement. In the virgin wilds he is not nearly so numerous as he is around the fringes of farm and ranching country. Fur traders admit that more coyote pelts come from farmers than from wild-land trappers. And over a period of years, the numbers of pelts taken proves that the coyote is on the increase throughout the continent, dropping in numbers when the mice and rabbits are scarce but climbing up into new record-breaking total when coyote conditions are favorable and fur prices good.

During the '43-'44 winter coyote pelts commanded the best prices in years, averaging \$15 to \$18 apiece for prime

Turn to page 27



[Photo by J. T. Cardinal.]

The End of a Predator

THE coyote looked like a cheerful yellow pup as he came bouncing along the willow flat. His tongue was panting, his jaws laughing his gait a shambling, aimless trot, and he had a puppy look of sleepy carelessness. Then he stopped. The transformation was amazing, for now he was a sharp-eyed, sharp-eared hunter, one of the smartest in all the wilds. For a second he was poised in a wary, crouching stance, then his nose pointed to a grass clump and the animal executed an agile leap across the intervening space, coming down with all four paws bunched together and landing smack on the spot his nose had selected. And again his character changed: he looked almost ludicrous, standing with all four feet bunched on a four-inch space, his head wagging from side to side as he peered anxiously around as though half expecting to see his tiny victim scoot away



SEED FROM THE PEACE

AMONG those portions of western Canada especially adapted to the production of seed of high quality, the Peace River area must be given a fairly high place. Although settlement has been developing in measurable degree for at least 30 years, and although some soil deterioration has taken place, leading to declining yields in older settled districts, the area as a whole is still comparatively free of weeds. The typical soil of the region is the grey-wooded soil, which is so well adapted to the production of legume and forage crops once it is broken up and inoculated with the necessary legume bacteria. Peace River seed enthusiasts point with pride to the achievements already secured in the matter of seed grains, especially oats; call attention to the fine stands of alfalfa to be found here and there; and argue that proof of the adaptability of the region to seed production is found in the fact that pea seed retains its color to a greater extent than in many other areas.

These advantages have been apparent to the more discerning of the early settlers for a long time, and it was a natural outcome of this recognition of natural advantages that some of the early seed growers should band together into an association for the better development of the seed business in the Peace River country. An organization was effected in 1928, and a Charter obtained in December of that year. For nine or ten years after organization, the membership was fairly limited, increasing to not more than about 45 up to 1937.

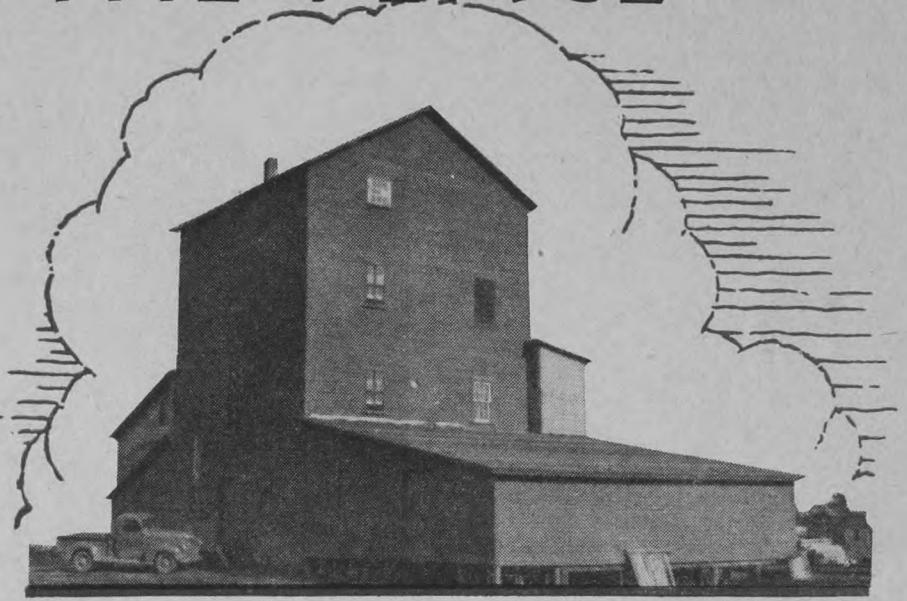
About that time other growers in the area were recognizing the value of a seed organization, and were demanding admission to the already existing organization, which had been operated as a joint company quite closely held, and with several thousand dollars of accumulated surplus. Gradually, other members were taken in and, over a period of about seven years, sentiment developed for more orthodox co-operative methods, which culminated at the annual meeting held in Grande Prairie on July 29, 1944, in the adoption of a new memorandum and articles of

**Peace River
Co-operative Seed
Growers are out-
growing their facil-
ities and are ripe
for expansion**

by
H. S. FRY

association under The Co-operative Marketing Associations Act. The Association is now empowered to deal or handle seed in almost any way, including processing and manufacturing, any grain or other field product produced or delivered to it by its members; and it may also carry on any other business, manufacturing or otherwise, which seems calculated to tie in conveniently with the original purpose of the Association. It has now about 140 members located principally in the Grande Prairie district and in the Peace River block as far north as Taylor, which is a few miles south of Fort St. John. Even with this limited servicing of the entire area, however, the volume of business for the year ending May 31, 1944, amounted to \$241,687.

Since its organization in 1928, the Peace River Co-operative Seed Growers Limited has met with several reverses and experienced serious problems which have interfered with its natural growth and development.



Office and warehouse at Grande Prairie, Alberta, of the Peace River Co-operative Seed Growers Limited

For one thing, illness of the then manager caused the volume of business to drop from \$89,179 for the year ending May, 1938, to \$7,859 the following year. Since then, however, volume has steadily increased. It first doubled, then trebled, then increased for two successive years by 50 per cent, and last year by 70 per cent. With a satisfactory expansion program, it should reach the million dollar class in a few short years.

Rapid Growth Crowds Facilities

Until the present time, however, expansion has not been too easy. In the first place, warehouse facilities

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RESEARCH BOOSTS BACON QUALITY

Pre-war study of quality by the National Research Council will enable Canada to deliver bacon of a quality comparable with that from hogs produced by Denmark

by

M. W. THISTLE and F. T. ROSSER

DURING World War I and the immediate post-war period, Canada was called upon to multiply her bacon exports to Britain by 2½ to 3 times, but even this amounted to little more than 25 per cent of the United Kingdom's needs at that time. Slow wartime transportation had forced Canada to adopt hard-curing practices to preserve the meat, in spite of the fact that the British liked a mild-cured product. As a result, Canadian bacon acquired a very low reputation indeed; and, in the later postwar years, this was largely responsible for the slump in our bacon trade, which reached in 1931 an all-time low of one-half of one per cent of the

British imports. The average of 17 per cent was not attained again until 1936.

Complaints received from the British indicated that Canadian bacon was sometimes slimy, the color variable and the product generally less satisfactory than Danish bacon, which commanded a higher price.

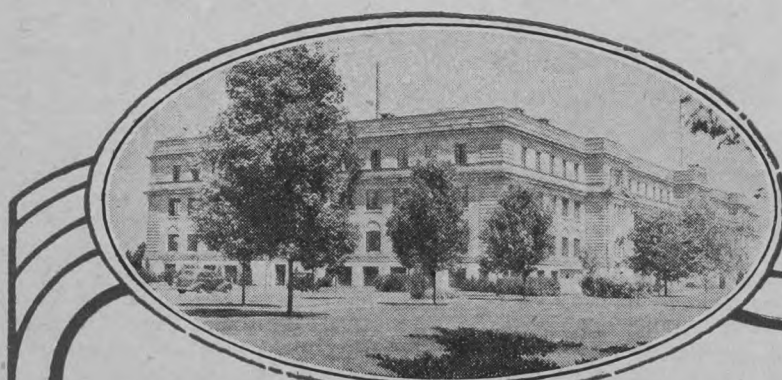
A meeting to consider means of improving the processing, storage and transport of Canadian bacon was called by the Dominion Department of Agriculture in 1937. Representatives of the Department, the packers and the National Research Council attended and it was agreed that the National Research Council should make a major study of these problems.

The first step in the investigation was to gather information on Canadian processing methods, a step made possible by the hearty co-operation of the packers. The methods followed in each of the plants exporting bacon were observed

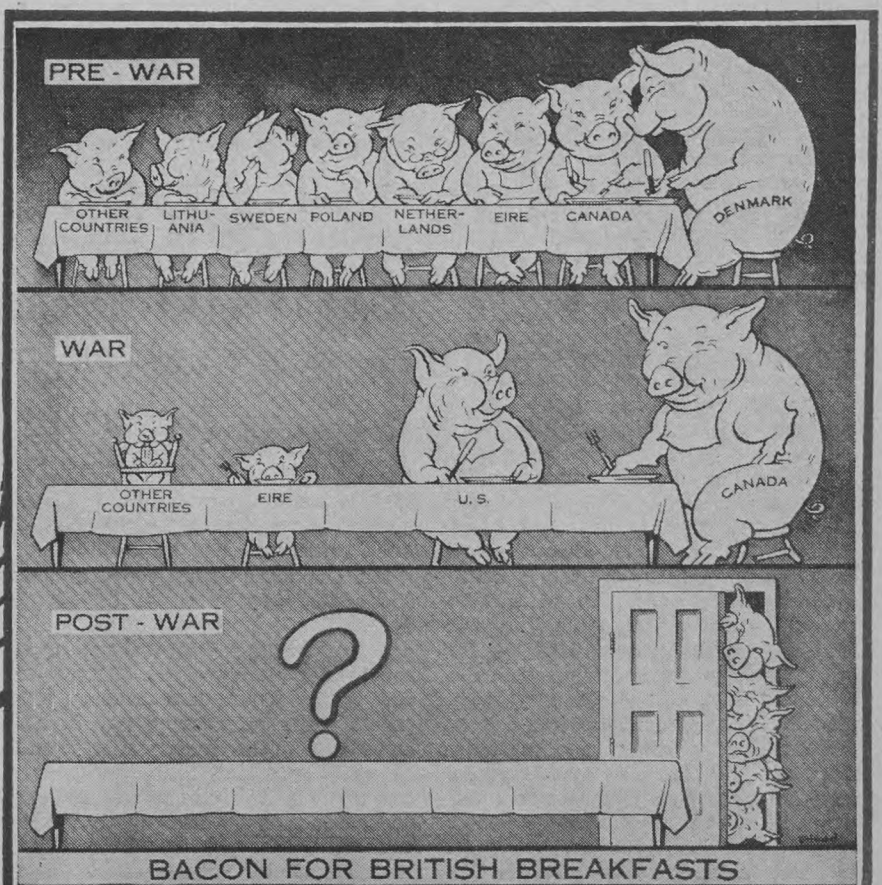
and tests were made of curing pickles and bacon samples at all stages of production. This survey revealed large variations in the slaughter and curing practices followed in different plants and showed that some processes resulted in a product of high quality.

Following this preliminary work, intensive scientific studies were made on factory-produced material. These studies indicated the practices that should be followed to prevent slime formation and maintain a good color. Color is affected by many factors, chiefly

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Canada's National Research Council is housed in this spacious building at Ottawa, but much of its most valuable work is done in co-operation with institutions all over Canada.





FOR the second successive night Luke Thompson, the trapper, was awakened by the sound of lusty gnawing at the wall or floor of his new cabin. At first he had laid it to wood rats investigating his food supply, but tonight, as the sounds continued, he banished that idea. No rat, nor family of rats, he knew, could generate such a bombardment.

He lay still for a space, wondering with a tingle of excitement if a wolverine, that rarest and slyest of all the fur bearers, could have seen fit to visit him. He knew that animal's devilish proclivity for entering and robbing human dwellings. When for the third time the barrage dragged him back from sleep he rose wrathfully and groped for his rifle.

Then, seeing that the first salmon tints of dawn were beginning to pulsate in the east, Luke decided to wait quietly until the light grew strong enough for him to distinguish the intruder. If it were indeed a wolverine he might be lucky enough to secure a shot that would rid the vicinity, as well as his own trap line, of an incurable wastral, thief, and outlaw.

As he waited, the man carefully located the sounds. They came from under the floor at the far corner of the cabin directly beneath his wood stove. Interspersed with the racket of gnawing came sounds of lusty chewing and an occasional subdued grunt or squeak of pleasure.

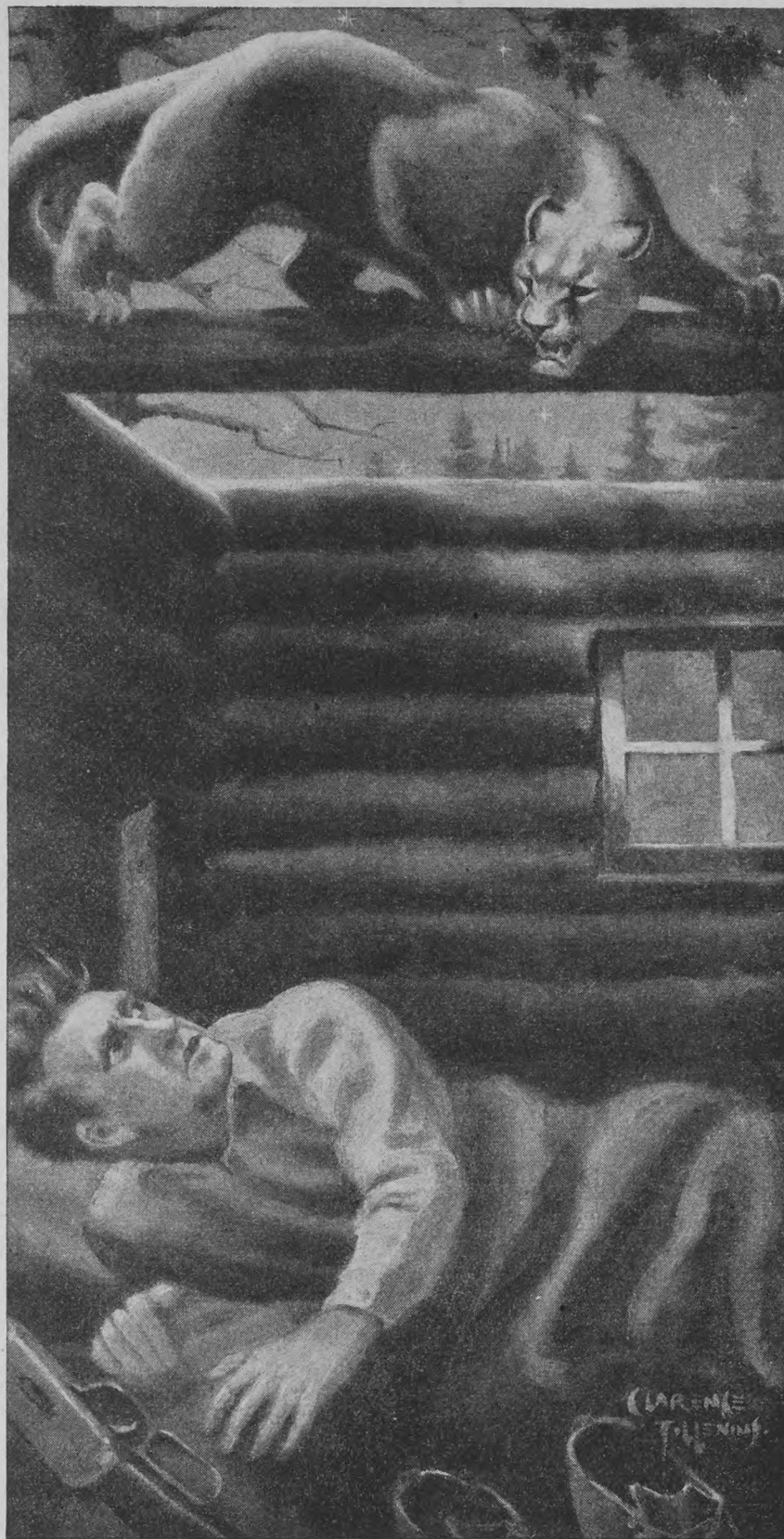
A slow grin overspread the old woodsman's wizened features as the identity of the prowler became plain to him. Despite the cruel calling by which he made a living in the winter months, Luke was more naturalist than hunter. Paradoxically enough, he loved the wild things, and of them all none was more admirable and inoffensive than Quills, the phlegmatic porcupine.

One of these self-contained little creatures had been drawn by some elusive odor to investigate the cabin he was building on the Upsalquitch. Luke knew beyond doubt by the rattle of quills. He rose and put his rifle back in its corner.

As if his step on the floor were a signal, the activity of the porcupine ceased abruptly. There were a few snuffling, petulant sounds, a slight rasping as of someone rubbing two dry sticks together. A minute later Luke glimpsed the intruder emerging from beneath the cabin floor and making off across the clearing.

As usual Quills went at his own rate, which was about two miles per hour, or possible three in a straightaway. He was one of the philosophers of the forest. Of all the wild folk he was unique in that he dispensed with both speed and caution in his life. He had no need of them, for he lived upon the most innocent of fare—buds, leaves, and roots—the curds and whey of wilderness diet; and because of the fearsome panoply of needlelike quills which covered his body from his very eyes to the tip of his blunt tail, no killer, whether wolf, bear, or cougar, dared come within reach of that dreadful armored tail or attempt to crush him with a blow on his pincushion of a back. Benign of aspect he was, hurrying for nothing, calm with the immutable calm of the forest itself. On his grey-black gnomelike face was an expression at once mild and ludicrously petulant; about him also, if one were sensitive enough to get it, was the sense that this little beast was as mystically attuned to nature as the silent, ineffable march of the forest trees.

Luke Thompson was no mystic, but a woodsman, yet he had always felt



The big cat was stretched out along the beam, its powerful foreclaws unsheathed.

SQUARE ALL ROUND

A trapper who had a score to settle with a night prowler in his cabin

by
PAUL ANNIXTER

ILLUSTRATED BY CLARENCE TILLENIOUS

that way about porcupines, and never harmed them. Anyway, the "porkies," he knew, were protected by law.

Luke examined the floor to discover the source of the feast. As he had expected, the point of attack was in front of the stove, where two of the rough floor planks were saturated with the grease which had dropped from several weeks of cooking and had accumulated on the rough planks. Already a small hole had been cut through the floor by the porcupine's powerful orange-colored chisels. The animal had masticated splinters and all in the quest of the one chief abandonment of his mind—bacon grease.

It was a bit too thick, Luke opined,

and, breakfast over, he barred the openings beneath the cabin floor with heavy blocks of firewood. The remainder of the day the surrounding woods echoed to the ring of his ax as he notched and flattened timbers for the completion of his winter cabin.

Luke turned in late and tired that night, all set for an undisturbed rest, but he had underrated the greed and persistence of the quill-pig. Toward morning he was aroused as on the previous night by sounds of gnawing. The feaster on the floor had returned, after having tunneled his way laboriously around and under the obstacles placed in his path.

The average man would have reached

by this time a killing rage, but twenty years spent in the open had instilled in old Luke something of the forbearing patience of the forest itself. For a second time he withheld his hand and as on the previous dawn watched the banqueter depart to its secret home in the woods.

By now a sizable hole had been gnawed through the floor. The two planks directly in front of the stove appeared to be the centre of attack. With a wry grimace old Luke decided to surrender them to the enemy, lock, stock, and barrel. He could replace them at his leisure. Forthwith he pried them up and carried them forth to the edge of the woods where the porcupine could smell them out on his evening rounds and devour them at his leisure. Old Luke grinned the following morning on awakening from a sleep that had been sound and undisturbed.

HE had quite banished the episode of the porcupine from mind when four days later he returned at dusk from a trip to the settlement for supplies. It was a still, cold night with the first of the November frosts on the ground. Snow might come any time now. High time, Luke thought, that he had his cabin finished. The walls were completed, but the roof had still to go on. He lay in his bunk, looking up between the beams at the cold sky polled with stars, until he finally drowsed off.

How long afterward it was he awakened he never knew, nor what it was that had seemed to cry out a sharp warning through the mists of unconsciousness. Something certainly, akin to those guardian instincts animals know, and without which all wild things would soon become extinct. Animal-like he was whipped back to consciousness instantly, yet so subtly that no slightest jerk or start accompanied it. And almost before his eyelids parted he was telepathically aware of the nature of the danger that threatened.

Overhead the stars were almost obliterated. A thin segment of waning moon shone feebly through a veil of cloud. In the faint light Luke half doubted the testimony of his eyes, though at the same time something within him did not. Something about the outline of the heavy beam directly above his bunk had instantly drawn and fixed his attention. Instinct kept his gaze riveted upon it and all at once he knew it was a huge puma crouching up there; that it had been the dread intensity of the beast's regard that had jerked him out of sleep.

The beam was no more than nine feet above the bunk. The puma had reached it by dropping from the stout limb of a pine which stretched out to within six feet of the cabin wall. Even in the midst of shock and amazement old Luke figured that out.

The big cat was stretched out along the beam, its powerful foreclaws unsheathed and gripping the timber in a tense but silent ferocity. Green-yellow eyes glowed lambently from the middle of the flat, downthrust head. By the fixity of those eyes and by every con-

tour of the crouching form Luke knew that had he made a single abrupt movement on awakening it would have been his last.

He knew pumas. He knew their natures to be ninety per cent ferocity, which is just another name for cowardice, and that under any ordinary circumstances man had nothing to fear from them. But there was certain times under certain conditions when there was no more terrible foe in all the wilderness. Let a man be wounded or fall ill in the wild, or let a woman or child be lost, and it is ever the puma who will sense his predicament and hang for days on the trail. This was one

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MEET THE DAIRY INDUSTRY

At Regina the Dairy Farmers of Canada subtracted the scarcity of labor from the need for increased production and the answer was increased subsidies

IT would be a very queer state of affairs indeed if Canadian farmers and their many organizations across Canada were not, to some extent, uneasy about the postwar future for agriculture. The Dairy Farmers of Canada are certainly no exception. Indeed, they may have more reason for uneasiness than some other branches of the industry, because of the somewhat anomalous position into which the dairy industry has been involuntarily thrust.

During the past five years we have been provided once again with a world-wide demonstration of the importance of food. Not just any kind of food, but food that not only represents a high standard of nutrition, but is concentrated as much as possible and processed carefully. For children and mothers there is no more important food than milk and its products, as the result of which, a high priority in the production of milk has existed almost from the beginning of the war. It seems probable, too, that when the war is ended, much more attention will be paid by governments in many countries to improved food standards and higher levels of nutrition. This alone might seem to offer hope for the dairy farmer in the future.

The imperative need for milk and milk products during the war has brought subsidies of one kind or another for both milk and butterfat. Both the consumer and the producer have been subsidized: The consumer in order to keep Canada's price control machinery functioning, and the producer in order to induce still greater output. For the one branch of agriculture which utilizes large amounts of man labor, the anomaly therefore lies in this, that whereas Canadian farms have lost between 400 to 500 thousand persons to the armed forces and war industries, the call for increased production of vital foods such as milk and milk products has had to be accompanied by subsidies. The call has been met almost to the limit of human ability, and yet for the year 1945 an additional 500,000,000 pounds of milk is asked for. Farm prices in this field today are largely artificial—based not on demand, but on a shortage of labor—and what is worrying dairy farmers today is what will happen when consumer subsidies are withdrawn at the end of the war.

Canadian dairy farmers have not sought these artificial prices—they have not been able to avoid them; and it appeared quite evident at the annual convention of the Dairy Farmers of Canada held last month in Regina, that if the war food production job is to be carried through in 1945, these subsidies will not only have to be fully maintained on the 1944 basis, but may need to be increased. The labor situation on dairy farms is fairly desperate. Total milk production in Canada has been increased from 15,763,000,000 pounds in 1939 to 17,600,000,000 in 1944, or an increase of 11.1 per cent. As pointed out by W. C. Cameron, Dominion Department of Agriculture, Dairy Products Grading and Inspection Services, this achievement was not equalled by any other of the United Nations,

except possibly Great Britain. Furthermore, the quantity of milk used for the fluid milk trade and for farm use, has not caused any dislocation in the production balance of the various dairy products.

Recognizing the continuous and urgent need for still further increase in dairy production, the Dairy Farmers of Canada adopted a statement of policy which they will present to the Dominion government as representing the views of all branches of the dairy industry across Canada. No other organization exists today which is so representative of the industry from coast to coast, and representatives were present

at Regina from every one of the nine provinces.

The statement of policy necessarily was based on the two chief factors in production already referred to,

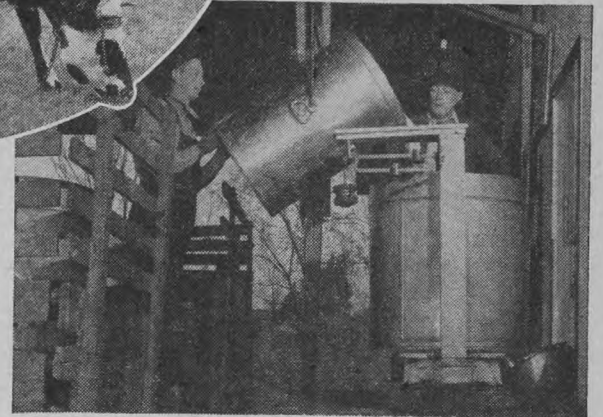
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A Manitoba Holstein herd.—Guide photo.

Left: This cow and 5-day-old calf in Normandy and the nearby fighter plane show how war and farming must proceed side by side.

Below: Cheese-milk being delivered to an eastern factory, possibly to reach Britain ultimately.—W.I.B. photos.



The Farm Goes To University

A LOT of people have funny and entirely wrong ideas about a university. I use the word funny in the same sense that we speak of "funny money," meaning queer, false, or unsound. Next to the home, the school, and the church, there is no more practical institution in our society today than the university, which, defined very simply, means merely a collection of students.

It is not the large buildings, or the equipment, or the text books, or even the professors themselves that make a university, but those who come to learn. Moreover, anyone who has attended a university knows full well that by no means all that is to be learned at a university comes out of books.

Along with several hundred other people I spent several days at the University of Saskatchewan, at Saskatoon, early in January. It was a busy institution that week—it was Farm Week—but

in spite of the regular students in attendance, and the 150 farm boys and girls who are taking the five-month's winter course in agriculture, and the men and women who came from all parts of the province to attend the various meetings in progress, and even in spite of the extreme labor shortage on western farms, it was not as busy an institution as it should have been. During one of the sessions at the annual convention of the Saskatchewan agricultural societies, Dean L. E. Kirk of the College of Agriculture gave us some rather startling information which explains why this and all other western Canadian universities should be busier places than they are.

Dean Kirk told us, for example, that the "level of education on the farms of Saskatchewan in terms of school is disastrously low." He said that from the best information they had been able to obtain by way of surveys, it appeared

that 69 per cent of Saskatchewan farm boys never get beyond Grade 8, and that only 31 per cent have any high school education at all. Furthermore, only 20 per cent of Saskatchewan farm boys go farther than Grade 9 in school. It appears that one Saskatchewan farm boy out of every four will leave the farm and find his life's work elsewhere, but three out of four will be the farmers of tomorrow. Would these facts appear less alarming, or would they be less true, if we were to say, on the basis of these figures, that 85 out of every 100 of Saskatchewan's future farmers will be unprepared and insufficiently educated for their jobs? This is what Dr. Kirk's figures mean, because the purpose of education is not to cram our heads full of useless book learning, but to bring out and develop what ability we possess; to open our eyes and add to our experience; and to bring us into contact with the great world of knowledge and experience that is the chief product of history.

Farm week at Saskatoon is organized by the Extension Department of the university. In addition to the regular classes of university students, the Saskatchewan Seed Growers Association, the Saskatchewan Field Husbandry Association, and the Saskatchewan Agricultural Societies hold their annual meetings and convention. Special sessions are arranged for farm women, many of whom embrace the opportunity to accompany their husbands to these meetings, and are thus able to get both profit and pleasure from the trip. The programs combine both business and mutual benefit. Outside speakers are heard, as well as the professors and members of the university staff who present new ideas from their respective fields. Invariably at Saskatoon, Prof. J. W. G. McEwan, of the animal husbandry department, arranges an impressive and instructive display of livestock in the spacious livestock pavilion.

University Extension

This article, however, is not concerned chiefly with what this or that person said, or what resolutions were passed,

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Farm labor is very scarce right now, but good farm managers are always scarce. Is this because the majority of farm boys receive too little education?—W.I.B. photo.

PART II.

MRS. TOPE'S identification of the dead man as Ledforge seemed at first to Tope impossible of belief. "It can't be," he protested. "Or there'd have been a noise about it before now."

"Not necessarily!" she insisted. "If he was kidnapped, his family may have been warned to keep quiet; or perhaps his business associates are planning how to support his stocks when the news comes out. But it is certainly Mr. Ledforge. Aren't you going to tell Mr. Cumberland?"

"Not tonight," Tope decided, boldly. "Even if it's true, I want a chance to think, before the hullabaloo starts."

"Will you tell Adam?"

"Adam's got a secret of his own," the old man replied. "I'll keep this to trade with him, by and by."

Tope that night lay not long awake; but he roused at dawn, and he began



Overnight Guest

The Story Thus Far:

Bee Dewain, an attractive young woman, had taken over the management of a roadside tourist camp and named it Dewain's Mill. She had formerly been secretary to Mr. Eberly, president of the local bank, until the bank had failed and had been closed by the government. Adam Bruce, a promising young lawyer, working with the Department of Justice had tried to persuade Bee to marry him, but found her not willing to take him seriously and also found that he had competition for her favor with at least two other young men including Ned Quill, a state trooper.

After a visit Bruce left, meeting on his way out Inspector Tope, who had married late in life, and Mrs. Tope planning on spending a honeymoon and a quiet fishing holiday. On Bruce's advice they went to Dewain's Mill. They took Faraway cabin because it was isolated from the others, and it was new, not having been occupied as yet. There Tope, alone, discovered the body of an elderly man under the built-in bed, with mouth strapped with adhesive tape and arms bound at back. By telephone Tope asked Bruce to return at once and to say nothing to anyone about his business. During the dinner hour he learned from the camp staff, which included the lazy Earl Priddy, and his wife who was cook and Mrs. Priddy's sister Mrs. Murrell, that there were six people in camp; that there had been eight over the week-end. After dinner Tope told of his gruesome find to Ned Quill, Bruce, Dr. Medford and Mrs. Tope. They decided that the man had been bound before he was killed and that his clothes had been changed. After the others left Mrs. Tope told her husband that she recognized the dead man as H. H. Ledforge, a large owner of water power utilities in New England. She had seen him once at a meeting of stockholders. Only that afternoon his large castle-like residence had been pointed out to the Topes by a garage man, who told them that there was a landing field for planes on the estate.

in front of Little Bear, Tope forgot his present search. Whitlock and Beal had been put, the night before, in the cabin toward the road. Tope saw that their car was gone; and he strode that way, Adam upon his heels. They came to the cabin, and Tope threw open the door.

The beds were in disorder, but the place was empty. Whitlock and Beal were no longer here.

Tope shook his head in self-reproach. "I'm getting old," he said. "I ought to have anticipated that. Too late now. All right, son. I'll see you at the farm."

So Adam departed, and Tope returned to Cascade and found Mrs. Tope dressing. "I see you found something," she remarked. "You're fairly licking your chops."

HE told her about the woman's footprint, the mark where a man's shoe had scraped across the ledge, and he added: "Whitlock and Beal have skipped. They must have left mighty early!" He fell into a thoughtful silence, and she left him undisturbed, till presently the breakfast bell summoned them down to the Mill.

Bee Dewain, fresh as dawn, greeted them cheerfully. "Rest well?"

"I never do, the first night in a strange place," Mrs. Tope admitted. "But I will tonight. We've decided to stay on awhile, so Mr. Tope can try the fishing."

Mrs. Murrell, entering in time to hear this last word, said volubly:

"Well now, Mrs. Tope, I call that sensible. Isaac, he's always wanting to move on and move on. Some people say it's hard on the twins, not going to school; but Isaac gives them their lessons right along." She laughed proudly. "Donnie does all Willie's lessons, if we don't watch him. Their handwriting's so much alike you can't tell the difference."

"They write alike?" Mrs. Tope echoed in polite indifference. "They look exactly alike, of course; but I didn't know twins wrote alike too."

"Yes, they do," Mrs. Murrell insisted. "I asked a doctor once, and he told me . . ."

But Bee interrupted her. People were apt to interrupt Mrs. Murrell. "Mr. Tope, Earl Priddy tells me your friend Adam Bruce came back last night."

"So?" Tope echoed. "Why, he told us in Middleford that he was taking the midnight train. Must've changed his mind."

Bee laughed. "Adam's always an uncertain quantity. He must be sleeping late. I'll have Mrs. Priddy keep some coffee hot for him!"

After breakfast, Tope and Mrs. Tope returned to Cascade. Tope rummaged

boots and fishing garb out of the rumble of the car and put them on. "We'll make fishing an excuse," he explained. "We'll drive away out of sight, and get to Amasa Dewain's without the folks here knowing."

She nodded, and presently they came out to the car, Tope brave in rubber boots and an old felt hat adorned with flies stuck in the band and crown. Earl Priddy, passing by along the drive, paused to ask in an interested tone: "Goin' fishin'?" Tope admitted this. "Git you any worms?" Tope shook his head. "I'll dig you some, fust chance I git," Priddy promised. "Fellow come through here last summer, hired me to take him fishing. Englishman, he was. And a great one for flies! Man, he could handle 'em too."

Tope was always willing to listen. He had heard, sometimes, surprisingly useful things. "Don't see many Englishmen here, I expect," he suggested at random.

"Well, some!" Priddy declared. "Fellow come here Friday night late—I guess he was English by the way he talked. Had that kind of a deaf man's voice that they have. I can tell 'em fur as I can hear 'em. He had a woman with him! Miss Dewain wouldn't have took 'em in, if she'd been up, case they wa'n't respectable; but she'd gone to bed, and I ain't so pa'tic'lar. I put 'em in Little Bear. They lit out before I was up in the morning."

TOPE nodded indifferently, and he got into the car. When they approached Amasa Dewain's farmhouse, they saw Adam on the porch. "Cumberland and

the Doctor are inside," he reported. "Want to go in?"

Tope said: "I'm wondering how long that man has been dead. Earl Priddy just told me that a man and a woman came late Friday night and stayed in Little Bear, and left early in the morning."

Bruce's eyes lighted, but before he could speak, Mat Cumberland came out of the house; and when he saw Tope, he drew from his pocket something wrapped in a handkerchief.

"You'll want to see these things, In-

to wonder by what route the dead man had been brought to Faraway. He got up and dressed with a quiet haste, and left Mrs. Tope asleep, and walked up the brookside toward Faraway, where Adam Bruce was still asleep; but he did not disturb the young man. Yonder on the knoll, half-concealed by intervening shrubbery, one of the other cabins was visible. It seemed the nearest to Faraway; and assuming for the moment that those who brought the dead man here had lodged in that cabin, Tope began to search the ground between.

He found two things. He found, on a slanting ledge, a scratch which might have been made by a nail in someone's heel; but the scratch was broader than a nail would readily have made, and Tope reflected that some men have set into the heels of their shoes a small triangular plate to retard the wear. Such a plate might have made that scratch.

And he found a woman's footprint! The small French heel had sunk to a depth of a quarter-inch or so, leaving its imprint plain. Tope stooped to look more closely; and then Adam Bruce came up the slope to join him. It was still early; but the sun had risen and now laid level lances through the trees. Adam lifted his hand in silent greeting. "Found anything?"

"I found this," Tope pointed to the footprint. "I judge whoever brought him here lodged in this cabin."

"This is named Little Bear," Adam told him. "If they did, Bee will remember them."

Tope hesitated. "Well, later," he decided. "You keep out of sight for now, go up to Dewain's farm, wait there. Doctor Medford will be doing the autopsy there this morning. We'll come up." He added: "Now let's go up on the knoll, and see if there are tire-tracks in the drive."

But as they came around to the drive



Inspector Tope unravels some interesting clues in a baffling summer camp mystery

By BEN AMES WILLIAMS

spector," he suggested. "They were in the pocket of those overalls. Ever see a knife like that before?"

The knife was of a peculiar design. It bore on one side a graduated scale marked off not only in inches but in centimeters. Tope opened the blade to the maker's name—a Sheffield firm. "English," he remarked thoughtfully; and he picked up the other article, a thing like a little metal fan, with leaves of differing lengths and thicknesses.

"What's that?" Cumberland asked.

"That's a gauge to test valve-clearances. Mechanics use them, on cars, and airplanes."

A car came toward them along the road from the highway. Bee Dewain whirled into the yard and alighted, full of surprised questions.

"What's happened," she demanded. "What are you all doing here?" No one spoke; and she turned to Adam. "Earl told me you came back last night. Why?"

Adam said laughingly: "Couldn't bear

She looked at him in quick attention. "Joe brought me home, late," she remembered. "Why didn't you tell him? Murders are his business. I'll bet that was your doing, Adam. Keeping Joe out of it! Oh, you make me so mad!"

Tope said quickly: "No ma'am, it was me! I thought we'd keep the whole thing quiet for a while."

BEE looked at Tope in sudden curiosity. "This sort of thing is Adam's job!" she remembered. "But why are you . . . Of course you found the dead man . . ."

It was again Mrs. Tope who explained. "My husband used to be a police inspector in Boston, Miss Dewain. He has had a lot of experience in—murder cases. Mr. Cumberland asked him to help out."

Bee's eyes widened; but then Doctor Medford opened the kitchen door and came out on the porch. That stocky man was in his shirt-sleeves, with an

that the face was revealed for her to see.

The girl stared, shuddering; then suddenly she leaned forward, over the dead man, bravely close to him. She stood erect again, looking at them all with wide eyes.

Doctor Medford spoke. "Know him, Miss Dewain?"

"No. No, but . . ."

"But what?"

"He has something on his hair," said Bee. "Some sort of musky-smelling stuff. I've smelled it before." And she cried suddenly: "I remember!"

"Where?" Tope asked sharply.

"Friday night. Or rather, Saturday morning," she answered. "Some people stayed Friday night in Little Bear, and left before daylight. Mrs. Priddy was busy Saturday, so I made the beds, changed the linen. I smelled this same musky smell on one of the pillow-slips in Little Bear. Oh, I'm sure of it."

"Who were they?" Cumberland asked.

"I don't know," Bee confessed. "Earl Priddy took them to the cabin. They came late Friday night and left very early. I didn't see them at all. But I'm positive about the smell."

There seemed no more to say. They moved out of doors again, and Cum-

berland asked. hard to believe; but this man died of peritonitis, from a ruptured appendix. Rupture resulted from a gangrenous condition produced by a crease in the omentum that bent a fold in an artery, they way you do a hose, and shut off the blood supply. That's how he died!"

For a moment no one spoke, till Cumberland muttered: "Then it's not murder, Tope!"

The inspector said impatiently: "They tied him up, gagged him, left him half-smothered with a blanket around his head when he was running a temperature and pretty sick and needing a doctor, quick. If that wasn't murder, it was the next thing to it!"

"Manslaughter, maybe," Cumberland admitted.

Bee shivered. Even Adam's lips were white. Tope stood silent, his head wagging to and fro as it was apt to do when he was deep in thought.

"There are two or three things to do, to start," he decided at last. "But Mat, let me do them. Nobody knows me around here. I can poke around, and ask questions, and no one will think anything about it." He added: "Adam here can help me, and Quill."

"What do you figure on doing?" Cumberland asked.



to go away without seeing you again."

She colored angrily. "Don't treat me like a child! Why doesn't someone say something?"

Mrs. Tope spoke. "I'll tell you, Miss Dewain." And she made the matter briefly clear. Bee turned pale, but her head did not droop.

"I see," she said through stiff lips. "That's terrible, isn't it?" She caught Adam's eye. "This was why you came back?" she guessed. "I suppose Mr. Tope telephoned you?"

"Yes!"

"But why didn't someone tell me, last night?"

Adam reminded her: "You were off gadding with Joe Dane!"

When Quill had gone Tope turned to Adam—"you know where these quarries are?" "I can find them," he answered.

apron tied about his waist. He spoke to the district attorney.

"Mat, this is a queer one," he reported. He hesitated, as though doubtful of the wisdom of saying more. "Suppose you all look at him, see if you know him, ever saw him before."

Tope glanced warningly toward Mrs. Tope. "Miss Dewain is the only one who hasn't seen him," he reminded them. They followed Bee into the kitchen, where the dead man lay on the long table, covered from head to foot; Doctor Medford turned back the sheet so

land asked heavily: "What did they do to him, Doc? How'd they kill him?"

Doctor Medford said unsteadily: "I can stand most things all right; but this gets me."

And he continued, without prompting: "It was more or less luck that I hit it so soon. I didn't find any wounds, knife, bullet, nothing like that; so I went into the abdomen, thinking of poison. I found the answer there."

He hesitated and Cumberland urged: "Go ahead, Doc."

The doctor said grimly: "All right. It's

"Well," Tope suggested, "suppose it was you that had fetched this man to Faraway and left him there to die. Wouldn't you be worried for fear someone had spotted you?"

"It was dark," Cumberland reflected. "I'd have kept my hat pulled down, my collar turned up."

"How about the car? Wouldn't you be afraid Priddy might remember the car?" Then, putting himself in the other's man's place, Tope went on: "Of course, maybe I'd steal a car to do the job. Mat, have you had any reports of a car being stolen, around here?"

"I wouldn't know about that," Cumberland confessed. "Ned Quill would, Turn to page 37

ILLUSTRATED BY JON STABLES

THE Country GUIDE

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The Voice of Agriculture

In the Canadian Federation of Agriculture the people who make their living from the soil of this Dominion have, for the first time, a truly national organization through which they speak with one voice. From Prince Edward Island to Vancouver Island and throughout the entire range of the most diversified of all industries, they are represented in the deliberation of this national body. It is not their first attempt at organization on a national basis. The most effective organization to previously represent them was the Canadian Council of Agriculture. It was a potent body. Of the men who at one time or another sat around its board, three became provincial premiers, two became front bench cabinet ministers at Ottawa, a dozen or more were elected to parliament and a still greater number to provincial legislatures. It was a small compact group, in which never more than 30 or 40 men sat around a conference table. Their deliberations were on a high plane—it has been said that they were on as high a plane as a meeting of cabinet council at Ottawa. A former president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, which at that time had a membership of over a million, once stated, after visiting the Council, that he doubted if the six million farmers of the United States could put an equal body of equally able men in one room.

* * * *

But the Canadian Council of Agriculture, potent though it was, was not truly national in its scope. It grew out of the old Grain Growers movement. It too was a federation, consisting of representatives of provincial educational associations and the large co-operatives. However, of the nine provinces, only the three prairie provinces and Ontario were consistently active in it. For a time, at the height of the Progressive political movement, a delegate or two from the Maritimes occasionally appeared at its council table. Quebec farmers were never represented, nor were the fruit growing and dairying interests of British Columbia. It was primarily representative of the grain growing interests of the prairies, giving some attention to livestock and in a lesser degree to dairy problems. Its decline was due partly to the farmers' incursion into politics but in a greater degree to the rise of new commodity organizations generally known as the pooling movement. But no Canadian who knows the history of his country can fail to discern the influence of the Canadian Council of Agriculture on the course of public policy in this Dominion.

* * * *

With the passing of the Canadian Council of Agriculture in the late 20's the farmers of Canada were left without a body to represent their views. They began to feel around for a new basis of organization on a national scale. A new basis was discovered. One of the obsolete charges against farmers is that they cannot organize and stay organized. They are the most successful organizers of any economic group in Canada. From tidewater to tidewater there is a continuous mat of co-operatives and associations maintained for every conceivable purpose by agricultural producers. The vast majority of these organizations are local, but many of them are provincial and some even interprovincial and national in scope. The idea of federating them first arose in B.C.

where a Provincial Federation of Agriculture was organized. Later provincial federations were formed in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Prince Edward Island. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick came together in the Maritime Federation of Agriculture. These, together with three interprovincial bodies, including United Grain Growers, are represented on the National Council. The form of organization in the provinces varies according to local conditions. In Manitoba it differs from Alberta, both differ from Ontario or British Columbia, but every phase and facet of farm organization throughout Canada is represented. The fruit growers of Nova Scotia and B.C., the grain growers of the prairies, the almost infinite variety of commodity groups in Ontario, the livestock, dairy, poultry and honey producers, all are included and out of this complexity arises a national body through which the farmers of Canada reconcile their own differences of opinion and interest and speak with one voice on problems which affect them all.

* * * *

Here, then, is a great practical field in which national unity has already been achieved. The Canadian Federation of Agriculture is setting an example which shows that irrespective of race or creed, the men of the soil, whatever their particular interest in the most varied of all industries, can live and work together in harmony. Last year the Federation met in Quebec City. At its Ninth Annual Convention in Regina recently, J. A. Marion, of l'Union Catholique des Cultivateurs de la Province de Quebec, and a vice-president of the Federation, presided at one of its sessions. One of the delegates from New Brunswick was a French Canadian. The greatest harmony prevailed in spite of the fact that the annual meeting of the C.F.A. is truly a convention. It is not a small group of men sitting around a council table, but a meeting in which not only voting delegates, but any one who so wishes is free to express his or her opinions. In addition to being a national forum for agriculture, and a potent force in pressing the interests of agriculture on the attention of the moulders of public policy in this country, the C.F.A., as was stated by J. H. Wesson at Regina, is a great unifying influence at a time when national unity is threatened as never before.

The North Grey By-Election

This issue of The Country Guide will be coming off the press when the result of the North Grey by-election is known. Whatever the verdict, Prime Minister Mackenzie King has announced that a general election will follow. It is therefore certain that, while the struggle against Hitlerism is in its final and crucial stage, this country is to be deluged with the vituperations of a bitter political struggle. Just when the greatest unity of purpose is necessary in putting the last ounce of the nation's strength behind the war effort, the country is to be divided, and its attention diverted, by a totally unnecessary partisan conflict. It is deplorable to say the least. There should be no such disturbance of Canada's war effort while this page of world history is being written.

There was no earthly need of a by-election in the first place. General McNaughton should have been given an acclamation. It is a traditional courtesy which, with the greatest propriety, could have been extended in this case. Great heat had been engendered during the conscription crisis but the country had cooled down. The solution reached was not satisfactory to a lot of people but it is safe to say that the vast majority of them were in favor of accepting the result and getting on with the war. As for a general election, it should be held in abeyance until after the conflict has passed its crucial stage. If necessary, the life of the present parliament could be prolonged, as it was in 1916. In any case the next general election campaign should be fought, not on war, but on postwar issues. As matters are shaping up, there will be a confused and bitter contest over war policies, whereas, with the present progress of Allied arms, at least four-

fifths of the life of the next parliament will be concerned chiefly with policies of rehabilitation and reconstruction.

On the Price Control Salient

An American delegation has been looking into Canadian methods of price control. There is the gravest apprehension in the United States concerning their ability to hold the line against inflation. Should the line fail there it would be hard to hold it in Canada. The trade between these two countries, in both directions, totalled over two and three-quarter billions in the 12 months ending with last October. That was the amount of goods on which a value had to be placed. If prices were to get out of control in the United States it might, with these huge transactions, play havoc with price control in this country. At best there would have to be a great extension of the machinery for regulating exchange between the two countries and a heavy additional strain would be placed on Canadian public finance.

But the matter does not end there. When the Allied nations met at Bretton Woods, their chief object was to blueprint machinery for the stabilization of monetary values throughout the world and of exchange between the nations. A healthy international trade is absolutely necessary to postwar rehabilitation and the attainment of prosperity and lasting peace. Without monetary stability there can be no healthy trade, internal or external. If the war is lost on the price control salient of the home front in Canada and the United States, at present the two greatest trading nations in the world, the difficulty of putting postwar trade on a steady and healthy basis will be increased enormously. It will be difficult enough without such disturbing factors. The price control front in Canada and the United States must be held. If there is a break-through followed by an orgy of runaway prices, the domestic economy of both countries would be thrown out of gear, the problem of war finance would be increased immeasurably, a post-war depression would be inevitable and the work of rehabilitation greatly impeded. If these two countries were to become involved in inflation with the end of the war in sight it would be a tragedy that would come home to every man, woman and child in both countries.

The Investment Is Safe

What about the market value of Victory Bonds after the war? The people of Canada are being asked to practise every economy, invest the money saved in Victory Bonds and thus provide a backlog of spending power to be used after the war in making deferred purchases and improving their property. Some are asking if there is any assurance that their Victory Bonds will be worth one hundred cents on the dollar, if and when they wish to cash them for such purposes. On this question the Hon. J. L. Ilsley, minister of finance, has this to say:

"It will be of the greatest importance that we maintain, indeed assure, a ready and stable market for all these millions of bonds that we have sold. We have now the monetary and financial machinery and we have developed the methods for accomplishing this, and we will therefore be able to deal with any situation which may develop in a way which will keep faith with the millions of investors who are supporting the savings program in this national emergency."

Mr. Graham F. Towers, Governor of the Bank of Canada has given this assurance of the future of Victory Bond prices;

"Government bond prices reflect the level of interest rates. A decline in bond prices could happen only if interest rates were to rise. In my opinion, the needs of the future will require and enable the kind of monetary policy which has brought about the current level of interest rates. Continuance of this policy means stability in Victory Bond prices."

These assurances from the two highest ranking responsible authorities on the subject should settle any doubts as to the postwar value of Victory Bonds.



Am I embarrassed! Why, Pop ...

**You brushed your teeth without
massaging your gums!**

Pop: What's so terrible about that, Bobby? It's my *teeth* that need care, not my *gums*.

Bob: You'd go to the *end* of the class in our school for *that* answer, Pops. We're taught that regular gum massage is just as important to teeth as regular brushing.

Pop: Well, this is something *I* never learned in school. Fire away, Teacher.

Bob: Oh, you're just kidding, Dad. *Everybody* knows you should massage your gums after brushing, 'cause today's soft foods often let gums get flabby and tender, and then comes "pink" on your tooth brush, and then, "oh-oh"!

Pop: What do you mean, "oh-oh"?

Bob: Just, "oh-oh," better make a date to see your dentist right away!

THE importance of regular gum massage for healthy teeth is being taught in thousands of schools throughout the country today, because

more and more teachers are realizing the value of massage in helping to strengthen flabby, tender gums and to protect teeth.

Fortunately, Nature gives us a warning signal when a danger point is reached—a tinge of "pink" on the tooth brush. See your dentist when this happens. He may suggest "the helpful stimulation of Ipana and massage."

Ipana Tooth Paste, with massage, is especially made to strengthen tender gums. And when gums are firm and healthy, teeth will be bright and sparkling, your smile more attractive.



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WHEN TO USE: Treat first in early Spring when the grubs start to drop.

HOW TO USE: Follow directions on package. Apply to warbles with stiff brush or fingers. Rub in well.

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HON. JAMES G. GARDINER, MINISTER

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NEWS of AGRICULTURE

1944 Farm Subsidies

THE sum of \$94,142,500 is the estimated amount of the subsidies received by Canadian farmers from the Dominion government during 1944. The largest single item was \$14½ million paid for feed freight assistance, the greater part of which is paid to eastern Canada. Fluid milk subsidy paid to producers amounted to \$11½ million, and hog premiums for A and B1 qualities, \$13.4 million. Total subsidies for dairy milk, including fluid milk, butterfat, concentrated milk, cheese milk and cheese quality payments amounted to approximately \$39 million. Prairie Farm Assistance required \$7.4 million, and Wheat Acreage Reduction \$8.2 million, as compared with \$31 million in 1943. Feed wheat drawback required \$8.2 million as compared with \$2.2 million in 1943. A total of \$2.4 million was paid for canning crops, and the balance of the \$94 million was made up of subsidies and subventions on fertilizers, lime, alfalfa meal, seed storage, berries for jam, and wool.

Five Years of Meat Exports

FIVE years of Meat Board and Bacon Board operations in Canada (begun January 20, 1940) have resulted in exporting over \$595 million worth of bacon, pork, beef, mutton and lamb to Britain. Bacon and pork exports alone involved more than 2½ billion pounds from 22,500,000 hogs produced on Canadian farms. This means two out of three hogs slaughtered in inspected establishments during the past five years.

During 1944, pork, beef and lamb exported amounted to about 885 million pounds from 6,100,000 head of live-stock, the export value of which was more than \$194 million. Bacon and pork exports in 1944 accounted for 5,800,000 of the 8,766,000 hogs slaughtered in inspected establishments. Beef purchases on British contract accounted for 320,000 of the 1,354,000 head of beef cattle slaughtered in inspected establishments last year. Similarly, of the 959,000 sheep and lambs slaughtered last year, 26,740 were required to supply 1,150,000 pounds of lamb and mutton to Britain.

Frozen Foods Increase

ONE year ago the Alberta legislature passed a Frozen Food Locker Act, the first of its kind in Canada. The legislation provides for the licensing and inspection of all locker plants by the department of agriculture. During the last few years there have been a number of such plants established in various parts of Alberta which have given a much-needed service to people in rural as well as in urban areas. The Alberta legislation provides for guarantees to co-operative associations desiring to establish a frozen food locker service.

Prior to the war, the frozen food industry in the United States was increas-

ing at the rate of about 25 per cent annually. The industry began about 1930 when there were only about 30 plants. Now there are about 400 such plants in the United States, freezing about 75 varieties of foods.

Two Western Horse Meat Plants

AS a result of the formation about a year and a half ago of a co-operative horse marketing association in southwestern Saskatchewan, two plants, which will be devoted to the processing of horse meat, will be taken over and operated by the association. One of these, to be located at Swift Current, will employ about 60 men and will involve an expenditure of about \$90,000, of which \$50,000 will consist of an advance by the Saskatchewan government. The other will be located at Edmonton, and will involve some remodelling of a plant already used for processing horse meat.

A contract has been secured with the Belgian government for 7,500 tons of horse meat to be supplied in frozen or pickled form. It is anticipated that approximately 150 horses per day can be processed in the two plants.

Estimates are that between 300,000 and 400,000 surplus horses exist in the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan. These surplus horses graze pastures bare; and, in the past, have been responsible for forcing the shipment of many thousands of cattle which might otherwise have been maintained on range lands.

The two proposed plants are expected to utilize 50,000 horses per year. The Belgian contract will require approximately 30,000 horses and 20,000 per year can be utilized by the fur industry as fox meat.

Brazil Can Expand Food Production

CANADA, with 3,695,189 square miles, is larger than Brazil, the largest state in South America, by an area equal to the province of Ontario. Brazil's population, however, of more than 41 million, is more than 3½ times that of Canada.

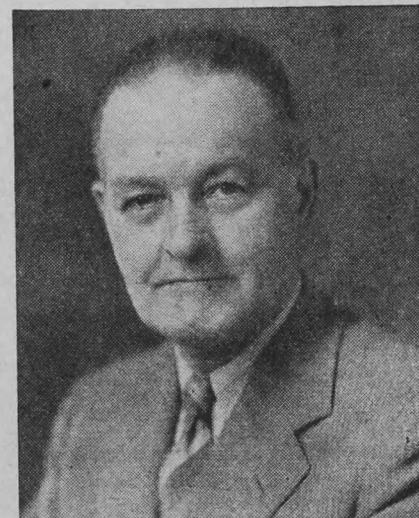
Agriculturally, Brazil is an immense area of undeveloped resources, only about 20 per cent of her land being cultivated. Nevertheless, she has 41 million cattle and 25 million hogs, ranking only after India, the United States, and the Soviet Union in cattle numbers, and after China, the United States, and the Soviet Union in hogs.

The total value of animal production in Brazil is about \$200 million, while the total value of all farm output is about \$500 million, or about one-quarter of Canada's agricultural production in 1942 and 1943.

In 1942, Brazil exported \$36 million of meat, the third most important export item. Since the war, exports have increased by about 100 per cent in volume and about 350 per cent in value.



Hon. J. G. Gardiner.
Canada's Minister of Agriculture believes that now we have more wheat than we can sell; and that wheat acreage should be reduced two million acres below last year.



J. G. Taggart.
Chairman of the Meat Board and of the new Floor Prices Support Board, who has recently discussed with many farm groups the basis of the Floor Prices Board operations.

Britain's War Food

WITH a population of about 45 million and a farm population 50 per cent greater than in Canada, British farms lost 85,000 men to the armed forces as compared with about 400,000 men from Canadian farms. The British figure was given by the Rt. Hon. R. S. Hudson, minister of agriculture and fisheries for United Kingdom during his recent Canadian visit.

The remaining men were "frozen" into their jobs, and could only take work in other industry with government permission. A Women's Land Army of 80,000 girls, supplemented by 60,000 Italian prisoners of war, replaced the trained men drawn from British farms.

British farm workers are now paid on the basis of a 48-hour week, and the minimum wage for male farm workers has been increased during the war from 38 to 70 shillings (\$8.75-15.25 Canadian). Experienced men get much more than this.

Milk rationing in Britain will continue until 1949 and the government's four-year program will extend through to 1947-48. By means of County Agricultural Committees, each of which includes five practical farmers, one labor union representative, and one from the Women's Land Army, 7,000 farmers in Britain have been dispossessed for inefficiency since the war began. Mr. Hudson said another 7,000 cases are pending.

Britain has 440,000 farm holdings and 230,000 farms. Economists from 12 universities are now studying the problem of costs of production; and when these studies are completed, both the government and the National Farmers Union will accept them as a basis for farm price stabilization plans. Meanwhile, farm production during wartime in Britain has increased by 70 per cent in terms of proteins and calories and by 120 per cent in tonnage.

Britain's livestock population has changed considerably. Pigs have decreased from 4.4 million to 1.9 million; poultry have decreased from 74.4 million to 55.2 million; and sheep and lambs from 26.9 million to 20.3 million. Cattle, however, have increased from 8.9 million to 9.5 million, and of this increase of 600,000 cattle, approximately 300,000 have been cows in milk and in calf.

The total area under crops and grass in Britain has declined slightly and in 1944 stood at 31.1 million acres, but total land under the plow increased from 12.9 million acres to 19.4, while permanent grass land decreased from 18.8 million to 11.7 million. Acreages in crops and fallow increased proportionately, the largest percentage increases for principal crops running as follows, as compared with the period 1936-38: Barley, 115 per cent; wheat, 109 per cent; potatoes, 102; oats, 58; fruit, 55; sugar beets, 37; vegetables, 34.

Imports of foodstuffs and animal feedingstuffs in the United Kingdom during the war years decreased very materially as compared with the five-year period 1934-38. The average import for the latter period was 22,026,000 tons, which was cut to as low as 10,606,000 tons in 1942, but increased somewhat to 11,525,000 tons in 1943. War-time imports of some important foods and feedingstuffs for the year 1943 were as follows, with the corresponding figure for 1934-38 in parenthesis: Wheat and flour, 3,975,000 tons (5,451,000); rice, corn, corn meal, other grains and pulses, 324,000 tons (4,919,000); other animal feedingstuffs, 12,000 tons (1,719,000); meat, including bacon and canned meat, 1,658,000 tons (1,486,000); oil seeds, oils and fats, 2,154,000 tons (1,783,000); dairy produce, 655,000 tons (889,000); fruit and vegetables, 327,000 tons (2,604,000).

As a consequence of increased home production and decreased imports, civilian consumption of several important foodstuffs was altered as follows in terms of quantities per week, the corresponding figure for 1934-38 being shown in parenthesis: Butter, 2.34 ounces (7.63); margarine, 5.26 ounces (2.77); cheese, 3.63 ounces (2.71); shell eggs, 1.45 (3.26); dried eggs, .8 ounces (.02); liquid milk, 4.32 pints (3.25); dried milk, 1.29 ounces (.49); fresh meat, 22.18 ounces (30.4); bacon and ham, 5.78 ounces (8.4); canned meat, 2.43 ounces (.89); flour, 4.43 pounds (3.75); potatoes, 5.25 pounds (3.4); fresh fruit, 12.06 ounces (27.17).



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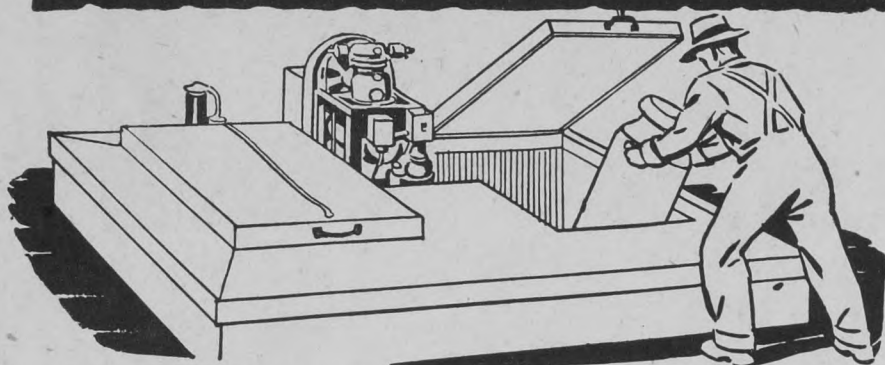
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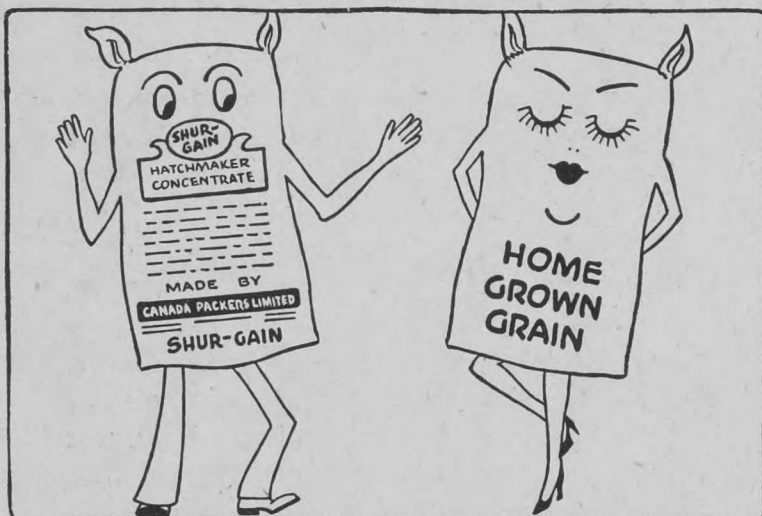
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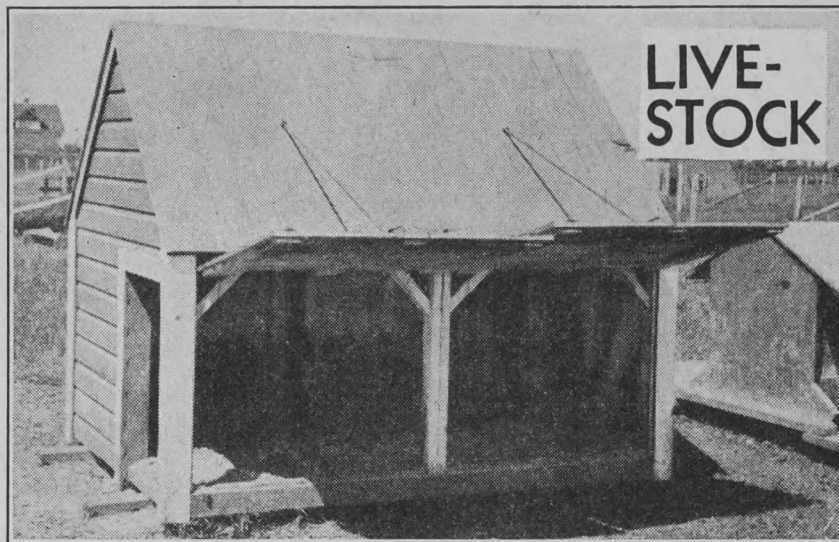
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ST. BONIFACE, MAN.

LIVE-STOCK



These small, inexpensive and convenient houses with self-feeder nearby can be moved conveniently to fresh ground as required.—Guide photo.

Are Both Milk and Beef Practicable

IN western Canada there are many beef herds of grades, or pure-breds belonging to the three principal beef breeds; and especially around the larger centres of population, there is an increasing number of pure-bred or grade dairy herds producing milk or high grade cream for the fluid milk market. On the bulk of western farms, however, the dual-purpose type of cattle seems to be desired, because in most cases herds are comparatively small, milk is required for family use and revenue from some cream shipped to creameries is invariably welcome. Moreover, steers raised from dams showing considerable beef type are marketed more satisfactorily and because the cows themselves, when finally turned off, are better market cattle.

Among the three beef breeds the Shorthorn is the only one in which an attempt has been made to develop a dual-purpose or milking Shorthorn type; and throughout Canada, including the prairie provinces, there are a substantial number of private herds of milking Shorthorns, as well as herds maintained at public institutions, such as the Dominion experimental farms and stations. One such herd of milking Shorthorns is kept at the Dominion experimental station, Scott, Saskatchewan, where a good measure of success has been obtained with it, according to E. Van Nice, assistant superintendent.

It is much easier, however, to breed and select for milk or beef alone, than to select for both characteristics in the same animal. Moreover, in Canada our milking or dual-purpose Shorthorns are registered in the same herd book as the strictly beef type Shorthorn, and this has a tendency to make more difficult the segregation of dual-purpose types.

Three years ago the University of Alberta began an experiment with a dual-purpose type of cattle, although in this case the cattle were not pure-bred or necessarily high grade. They were purchased to represent as nearly as possible a mixed type of herd found on many prairie farms, the object being to determine the economy and the efficiency with which a useful dual-purpose herd might be built upon such a foundation. The plan is to breed the cows

so as to have the calves born in the spring months, in order that pasture may be utilized to the maximum extent during the period when the highest rate of milk production may be expected; and to winter the cows as cheaply as possible, consistent with health and fair fleshing. Dry cows during the winter were housed in the dairy barn or in a straw shed and fed a ration of oat silage and low grade hay, or some similar ration.

Calves were allowed to nurse only 48 hours, after which they were pail-fed whole milk until four weeks old, then gradually changed to skim milk over the next two weeks, and milk feeding discontinued at from six to seven months of age. For the first two years of the experiment, all calves were finished during the first winter and sold at about one-year old. In 1943 calves were grown rather than finished during the winter and turned on grass during the summer to be finished either on cover crops or in the dry feed lot later if necessary.

There are no really high producers in this dual-purpose herd, although one cow produced 9,287 pounds of milk and 481 pounds of fat in 282 days to give an income over feed costs of \$137.53, or, including \$22.27 from her calf as net revenue over the cost of its feed, a total for the cow and calf of \$173.54. Five out of sixteen cows produced a combined net income of more than \$100 each.

A second cow in the herd produced 9,167 pounds of milk in 301 days. Two others each produced over 8,000 pounds of milk in over 400 days of milking. One cow only produced 3,263 pounds of milk in 145 days, to produce a net revenue, including her calf, of \$25.47, while still another with 3,421 pounds in 191 days had a net revenue of only \$19.70.

Taking the entire herd of 16 cows, the average number of days they were milking was 287 and the average production 6,400 pounds, yielding an average of 271 pounds of fat. Total average revenue from cow and calf was \$155.78. Total feed costs for both cow and calf were \$78.11, giving an average net revenue over feed costs for both animals of \$77.67, to pay for labor, shelter, straw and other costs.

Poor Cows Waste Labor

THE Extension Service of the North Dakota Agricultural College has, during the past four years, placed about 3,000 selected dairy heifers with over 500 dairy herds, with a view to improving the average milk and calf production of these herds. For this purpose high quality heifers have been brought in from the dairy herds of Wisconsin; and farmers have been urged to cull out their poorer cows and sell them at present satisfactory beef prices.

North Dakota authorities say that it requires 27 cows, producing 150 pounds of butterfat each, to equal ten cows producing 300 pounds of butterfat, if the farmer's object is to secure \$1,000 over the cost of feed.

In the State of Kansas, records of the Dairy Farm Record Association for a

12-month period show that cows producing only 100 pounds of butterfat per year returned only \$29 above the cost of feed. If the production of butterfat is doubled, the return over feed cost is \$66 per cow, although the cost of feed itself goes up from \$21 to \$34 per head. At 300 pounds fat per cow, the return over feed cost was \$106, and with a production of 400 pounds of fat, the return was \$142. In other words, where butterfat was valued at 50 cents per pound, \$34 additional butterfat was produced for each \$12 added in feed. The cow producing 100 pounds of fat in a year only cost \$21 to feed, but she only produced \$50 worth of fat, whereas the 400 pound cow cost \$58 to feed, but produced \$200 worth of fat.

The Self-Feeder Saves Labor

EVIDENCE is piling up as to the value of self-feeders in the economical raising of hogs, and points to the conclusion that they can represent a saving even greater than the amount of labor saved through their use.

Many farmers, especially older men, who have taken pride in their livestock and believe that careful personal attention is necessary for the most economical result have felt that hand feeding was the only method by which these results could be secured. The search for less time-consuming methods of conducting farm operations, together with research in the nutrition of farm animals, has led to the conclusion that the animals themselves have a much greater natural selective ability than they were formerly credited with. Many experiments with the self-feeder have been conducted at Canadian institutions and others and the

evidence points to the conclusion that the self-feeder will give just as good results as hand feeding.

What these experiments seem to show is that hand feeding of itself has no special virtue, except that it compels regular and frequent visits to the pigs and prompt action when anything goes wrong. On the other hand, the evidence also seems to indicate that the breeding of the pigs themselves, and the suitability of the feed mixture are the really important matters in pig feeding. If the producer will study the bacon-type hog and make sure that his pigs are bred from lines that promise economical production of grade A or B1 hogs, and if he will study the feed mixtures necessary to produce that type of market hog from well-bred pigs, it appears that he can save himself the labor of hand feeding at a time when that labor is very much at a premium.

Beet By-Products as Feed

SUGAR beets are grown in comparatively large quantities in certain areas of Manitoba and Alberta. Beet pulp and beet tops possess considerable feed value and if properly used, may help to produce economical rations and increased yields with dairy cattle, as well as in the finishing of cattle and sheep. The Dominion experimental station at Lethbridge has pointed out that according to Utah experiments, one pound of dry matter in beet pulp was worth slightly more than a pound of dry matter in corn silage. In Nebraska, cows fed alfalfa and beet tops produced slightly more of both butterfat and milk per head daily than when fed alfalfa as the only roughage. Lethbridge properly emphasizes the fact that these by-products of the beet crop are not concentrates in themselves, but supplements, and can only be fed to advantage along with some high protein roughage such as alfalfa. If alfalfa or some other high protein roughage is not available to feed along with beet tops or pulp, a protein supplement such as linseed oil meal will be necessary to balance the rations.

Also, if much beet pulp and tops are fed, it will be necessary to supplement the rations with a mineral supplement, in order to guard against mineral deficiency. Lethbridge recommends adding a mineral mixture composed of 50-60 parts of salt, and 40-50 parts of monocalcium phosphate, fed by mixing two or three pounds of this mineral mixture with each 100 pounds of concentrate fed, to balance the roughage.

Valuable as these by-products of the sugar beet crop may be for feeding live-

stock, it is necessary to use them with great care because they have a tendency to taint milk unless this is guarded against. Beet tops, beet molasses, and molasses beet pulp contain a chemical called betaine, which is absorbed into the blood stream, and from there finds its way into the milk, causing an undesirable flavor. The highest concentration of this chemical in the blood is generally reached about six hours after feeding, but if very large amounts of beet by-products are used, the highest concentration, and therefore the greatest danger to the flavor of milk, will occur about 12 hours after feeding.

It is evident, therefore, from the facts about this tendency toward a fishy taint in milk, that beet by-products should be fed immediately after milking, which would give a period of about ten hours under ordinary circumstances before the next milking will take place. "Unless exceptionally large amounts of the beet products are being fed," says the Lethbridge Station, "this should permit of their consumption and digestion and the removal of the betaine from the blood stream long before the next milking period arrives."

"Beet pulp itself has normally a marked odor, which offers another reason why it is bad practice to feed these by-products while the cows are being milked, or to store it in the barn where the cows are milked and where the odor will be always in evidence. This natural odor of the beet pulp is quite a different cause of taint from that already described in connection with the distribution of betaine through the blood of the animal."

Cutting Milk Production Costs

THERE is an old saying that there is more than one way to skin a cat, and the same thing is probably true of most other things done. It is certainly true of many farm operations, and of saving both time and money in the raising of livestock.

Take the case of dairy cattle. The cow raised and maintained on a farm for milk production seldom dies of old age, or is marketed because of old age, from the farm on which it was calved. In fact, the probability is that the great majority of cows do not milk for more than three, or at the most four, lactations before they are disposed of.

The reasons why cows are disposed of affords a clue to methods of reducing the cost of producing milk, or, for that matter, cream. There are no statistics available analyzing over a very large number of cows, in this country, the reasons why cows are sold or disposed of. But if the proportions are somewhat similar to those existing in England and Scotland—and they probably are—the chances are that about 50 per cent of all cows sold from Canadian farms either to market, or to some buyer, are as the result of some form of disease, possibly failure to breed, or abortion, udder disease of some kind, or tuberculosis. This probability in itself has a very direct bearing on the cost of production, because it means that a cow has been raised to maturity and perhaps milked for one or two lactations

when she must be disposed of. Obviously, there has been a substantial investment in her which the owner has not had an opportunity of recovering by the time she is sold. The loss so involved must be added to the cost of producing the milk.

Probably not more than one cow in five is sold from farms because she represents surplus stock which the owner cannot economically keep. The chances are that about the same number of cows are sold because they have been found to be low yielders. A few die of accidents, or are disposed of because of old age.

If it is true here, as in Britain, that not more than six or seven per cent are disposed of as the result of accident or old age, and not more than about 20 per cent as surplus stock, it means that about 70 per cent of all cattle must be sold before they have lived out their lives as normal producers, for reasons that the owner in many cases could have prevented. These reasons have to do with breeding, in the first place, to make sure that only heifers from good sires and dams are raised so as to eliminate those that have to be sold because they are poor producers; and in the second place, careful attention to good management and feeding so that the health of the individual cows can be maintained and their useful lives lengthened.

When labor is scarce, prices are high and there is need for the maximum of



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Efficiency of Livestock

THE hen and the pig are very efficient transformers of feeding stuffs into human food. Over a two-year period, the eggs laid by a fairly good hen represent a conversion from feed into eggs of 33.1 per cent of the protein, and 22.1 per cent of the energy value of the feed. Pigs consumed as pork, represent from 13.8 to 16 per cent of the original protein value of the feed transformed into food, and from 34.4 to 39.4 per cent of the original energy value. Consumed in the form of bacon, the protein conversion efficiency is a little less, and the conversion of feed into energy is slightly higher than in the case of pork. It may run as high as 43.4 per cent.

A fairly good cow, over three lactation periods, converts about 17 per cent of the proteins from feeds into food, and about 30 per cent of the energy value. A beef animal has an energy conversion efficiency of from 14 to 19 per cent, but it is less efficient in saving the protein of the feed it eats. At about 700 pounds weight, it is about 11.1 per cent efficient for protein and up to 900 pounds, its efficiency is 8.8 per cent.



Grade Shorthorn cows and calves on pasture at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. —Photo courtesy Animal Husbandry Division.

The percentage gradually decreases until a 1,400 pound steer has converted only 7.2 per cent of the proteins from its feed into human food. Lambs are said to be the least efficient of all, rating only 5.9 per cent in protein efficiency and 9.6 per cent in energy efficiency.

The figures just given are the result of calculations by British nutritionists. John Hammond, of the Cambridge School of Agriculture, England, points out that low-producing cows use a much higher percentage of their total feed in order to keep themselves alive, and therefore have a much smaller percentage available for the production of milk. A 9,000-pound cow will be able to use about 65 per cent of her feed for milk, but a 3,000-pound cow will only be able to devote about 45 per cent of her feed for this purpose. This means that low-producing animals are expensive, whether they are dairy cattle, poultry, beef cattle, or pigs.

Grain and Concentrates

COWS in milk are often fed very uneconomically. This may be done in two ways. First, by unnecessary saving of feed, especially chop or concentrates, which makes it impossible for the individual cow to produce her best; and second, from a tendency to feed the same amounts to several cows in the herd, which probably means that some will get more than they can profitably transform into milk or flesh. It is just as wasteful, of course, to feed too much to the poor cow as to feed too little to the good cow.

A dairy cow in milk, according to the Dominion Experimental Station at Lethbridge, will eat about two pounds of good roughage per 100 pounds of live weight each day. This means that over a winter feeding period of seven months a 1,200-pound cow will consume approximately 2½ tons.

There are few farm animals that will return so many dollars and cents over the year for the care taken in feeding them rations that are well balanced and in the proper quantities to suit their various capacities, as the

dairy cow. A good basis to start from in calculating the amount of grain, chop or concentrates that a dairy cow should receive is one pound for each three pounds of milk produced, over 15 pounds per day. Thus, a cow giving 30 pounds per day should get about five pounds of concentrates in addition to roughage. It is the roughage that makes the cow an economical producer, and the concentrates which are designed to balance her ration.

Respiratory Horse Ailments

HORSES may have four diseases connected with respiration or breathing. These are, contagious pneumonia, which generally results in from 15 to 20 per cent of deaths, infectious bronchitis, which may develop into pneumonia, influenza, which may also develop into pneumonia, and strangles.

Contagious pneumonia, as described by the Dominion Department of Agriculture, is characterized by a poor appetite, fever, coughing, difficult breathing, generally depressed condition, and weakness in the circulatory system. When these symptoms occur, a veterinarian should be called in as promptly as possible, and the animal isolated.

The greatest danger from infectious bronchitis is the possible development of pneumonia. The bronchitis is caused by a virus, and the symptoms include coughing, fever, and inflammation of the mucus membranes of the head. Rest is the best treatment, and when horses have recovered from this disease they should not be put back to work too soon, since other infections may develop which may easily prove fatal.

Influenza in horses is also chiefly dangerous for the same reason. The symptoms include chills and fever, lack of appetite, inflamed eyes, and difficult breathing. Such horses also should have complete rest, and should be watched carefully. Pneumonia may easily develop just when the danger from influenza appears to have been passed. In certain cases, medicinal treatment may be required, and the services of the veterinarian may be needed.

Iodized Salt Loses Iodine

AS the result of an experiment conducted by the Division of Chemistry in the Dominion Department of Agriculture, it becomes apparent that livestock producers who use iodized salt should pay particular attention to keeping such salt reasonably fresh.

Iodine is an important element in the feeding of livestock, especially perhaps in the prairie provinces, and for some time there has been difficulty in getting the iodine sufficiently stabilized when combined with salt so that it will stay associated with the salt and not be lost.

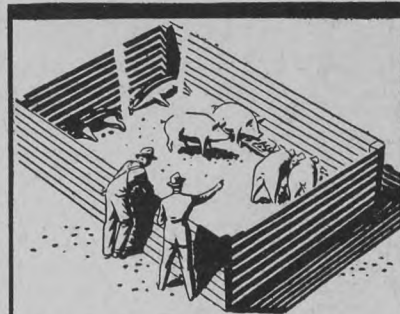
It was found at Ottawa that under stall conditions, the loss of iodine from the salt was not very rapid, but that at the end of nine months there was very little iodine left, and at the end of 16 months, only traces of it were present.

Apparently, the combination of moisture and sunlight is the chief factor causing the loss of iodine. This conclusion arises from the fact that iodine was lost less rapidly in the winter than in the summer. Under summer conditions, when rock salt was placed outside in the pasture so that livestock might have ready access to it, it lost its iodine completely by the end of two months, regardless of what kind of stabilizer was used.

LIVESTOCK ANNUALS

Once again readers of The Country Guide may obtain new, 1945 livestock albums and a wealth of important information regarding Old Country livestock from the Scottish Farmer Album, 1945, and from the similar livestock annual published by the Farming News and North British Agriculturist. Our supply of each of these publications has been ordered and is now on the way. The quantity is limited, and orders reaching The Country Guide will be filled in order of receipt. The price in each case is \$1.00 postpaid.

A few copies of the Scottish Farm Album, 1944, are still available, and the price of these is also \$1.00 postpaid.



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Mr. Verheul and the Verheul home as seen from the all-weather, all-season Henderson Highway.



A Dutchman in the Red River Valley

A. A. Verheul is a progressive farmer and a public-spirited citizen

A. A. VERHEUL came from Holland and most of his and Mrs. Verheul's relatives are still there. No word has been heard from or of them since 1940, which brings the war very close to the Verheuls.

I asked Mr. Verheul about the dyke lands of Holland. How is it that these lands are so badly damaged by flooding when the dykes are broken? He assured me that there is much more to reclaiming land from the sea than building dykes, and pumping out the entrapped water, colossal though such projects are. Zuider Zee land took seven years for even the heavy rains of that country to leach the salt out of it. The leaching may take even 10 or 15 years where the drainage is difficult and when the seasons are bad.

But there is more to it than that. A series of protective dykes have to be constructed inside the main sea wall. Otherwise, in case of a break, the lower dyke lands, the hardest to pump out, would be flooded first. The population is concentrated inside the protective dykes. They are protected there while a break in the seawall could be repaired. There are no repairing of dykes when the Germans ripped them open and so we read of villages being inundated and people and animals being drowned.

Sea bottom land is devoid of nitrogen. Like the grey wooded soils of our north country, the soil has to be conditioned. First it is plowed with caterpillar tractors and one-ways. Lupines are grown to provide nitrogen. There is also a potassium deficiency and commercial fertilizers are used. The second crop is rye, followed by the other crops. The outer zone, between the seawall and the first protective dykes is used principally for growing hay.

To what extent the fertility of the soil will be impaired as a result of the inundations cannot be said. But to repair the dykes, to pump out the water again and to go through the long process of leaching and conditioning the soil, is a heart breaking prospect for

the little nation that has suffered so much and so undeservedly. No wonder the Dutch are laying claim to German territory to compensate them for the loss.

Mr. Verheul's parents were in the grocery business but later went into fruit growing out in the country. Probably it was for that reason that he intended to go to B.C. when he immigrated to Canada. But he found himself in the Selkirk district and changed his mind over to grain growing. Presently he was on the Sifton Farm, which he managed for six years, but later bought land on the Henderson Highway east of the river and has been there for 10 years or so. He is a municipal councillor and has taken a very active part in the work of the local agricultural society.

Mr. Verheul is a great believer in good seed. It might be mentioned in passing that he has a tractor, as the portrait of him shows, and also a small combine. He has been able, by making adjustments in the combine, and building a bagging platform on it, to make a success of combining brome seed with the pickup. He says he can cover the ground with it just as fast as with any other crop.

He now has a cleaning machine—a Bodie Airways plant, on his farm. It is powered by electricity, for this farm home is already on a power line. The agricultural society has a portable cleaning plant, which operates mostly on the west side of the river. He has his own territory and he charges the same as the society to society members and a higher price for non-members.

The impression you get of Mr. Verheul is that he is a wide-awake, progressive farmer, who knows how to get along, and at the same time take an active part in community and municipal affairs. He has done well, considering that half the time he has spent in this country was under the handicap of the depression.—R.D.C.

An Organized Campaign Against Weeds

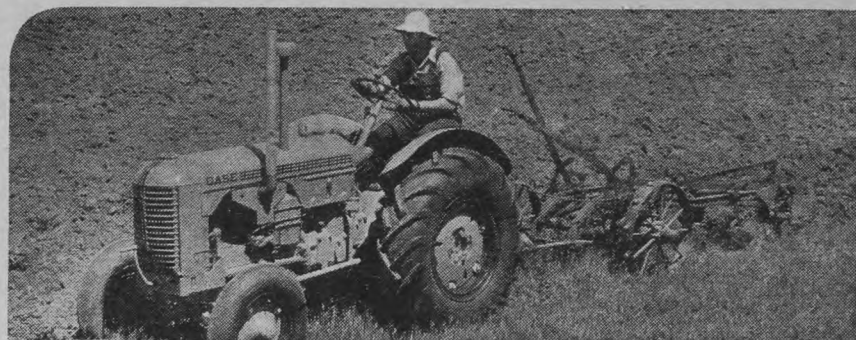
The municipal district of Red Deer fights weeds ten months in every year in 52 townships

IT has been calculated that if all of the dockage from grain shipped to terminal elevators by prairie farmers during the past 20 years had first been cleaned of other domestic grain and the clear dockage shipped to Ft. William from a central point, such as Regina, it would have required 2,050 trains of 55 cars each to carry it. The freight would have amounted to more than \$13½ million, and if it could have been sold at the terminals at \$10 per ton as standard

screenings, its value would have been \$33.8 million. Even this would have represented only the smallest part of the loss arising from weeds, because losses arising from the lowering of crop quality and decreases in yield due to weeds, plus the cost of harvesting, threshing and hauling the weed seeds to the elevator, must be added in.

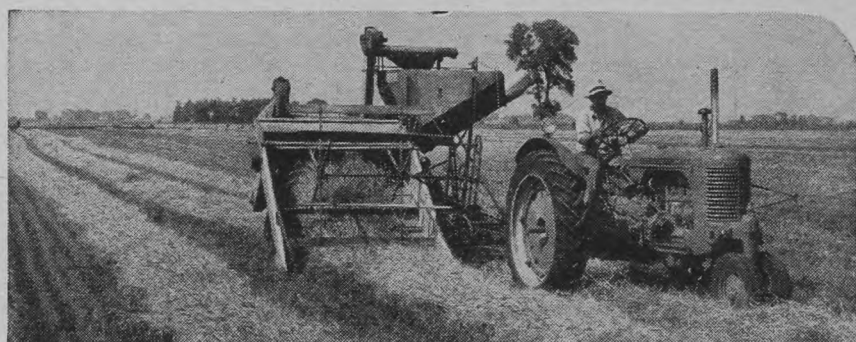
In the aggregate, the loss due to lowered yields alone is staggering. Based on any estimates I have seen from time to

Something Extra For Every Size of Farm



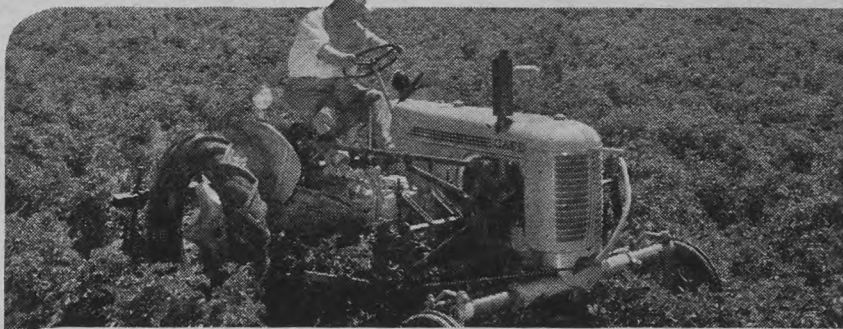
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INCORPORATED 2nd MAY, 1670

time, an average of 10 per cent would probably be a very low estimate indeed. Be conservative again and call this only two bushels per acre, on an arbitrary 35 million acres of all grains and you have around 70 million bushels of grain lost, which, if worth an average of 60 cents per bushel at the farm, would yield a loss from weeds through lower yields alone of \$45 million in one year.

It would be futile to talk about eliminating weeds altogether from western farms, and the chances are that not very much will be accomplished for many years in eliminating any appreciable amount of the staggering losses already suggested. The fact of the matter is that we have 300,000 farmers in western Canada, each one going at the job in his own way. Weeds are no respecters of boundary lines. Neither cross dogs nor closely woven wire fences will keep them out. Expensive implements and the most careful tillage methods can only keep the losses down to a minimum, as long as neighbors are careless. Weeds are persistent enemies, because they grow and spread underground and along the surface and through the air. They never can be combated with complete success, except by co-operative methods applied over an entire community or, better still, a municipality.

A Municipality With a Plan

Alberta has recently adopted a plan of larger municipalities, but three years prior to this innovation by the Province, an effective weed control program was inaugurated in the Municipality of Pine Lake, centering on Red Deer. This program is being continued under the Municipal District of Red Deer No. 350, which has a council of 11 members and covers 52 townships.

Last summer I met V. Bjorkland in the Municipal District office. Mr. Bjorkland is weed inspector for the Municipal District, as he was for the smaller Municipality of Pine Lake from the time the weed control program was inaugurated. I came away feeling that the Municipal District had something in their weed control program that could well be duplicated in many other places throughout the prairies. However, while it might be possible, it would probably be difficult to duplicate Mr. Bjorkland, who has farmed in the district for 31 years, was president of the Red Deer fair for several years, and is a past president of the Western Canada Fairs Association. He has raised, exhibited and bred dairy cattle, and is therefore not only well known, but is sympathetic to the problems of any farmer whom he may have occasion to visit as weed inspector.

Whereas most weed inspectors function only during the summer months, Mr. Bjorkland is employed for ten months of the year, from March 1 to December 31. This is an innovation arising out of the thoroughness of the weed control program of the Municipal District of Red Deer. In addition to Mr. Bjorkland there were two part-time assistants last year, and this number was expected to be substantially augmented in 1945.

A Program With Teeth

The weed control program in this municipality is one of positive action. That is to say, the municipality has given its weed inspector authority not

only to cut any field of crop which will prove to be a menace to neighboring farms if it remains uncut, but also to condemn a piece of land for cropping the following year, or for leasing to other persons for cropping, without his approval as weed inspector. These, it will be recognized, are rather drastic measures, but their great virtue is that they work. Mr. Bjorkland, for example is keenly interested in weed control and, in spite of the unusual authority he possesses, finds nearly all farmers easy to work with. His sympathy with and understanding of their problems enables him to gain their confidence—so much so that in some cases he has been able to arrange leases of land that could not be efficiently farmed by the owner or operator, to others that were in a better position to take care of it. In other cases, he has helped to effect sales of farms, the owner of which would eventually have been driven off and might have lost everything he possessed.

A crop is cut, or ordered cut, only as a last resort. In every case, any good pieces in the crop are saved wherever possible. Condemnation of land for cropping in the following year is in the nature of a stop-loss proposition for the community as a whole. When I saw Mr. Bjorkland in early August, he anticipated that it would be necessary to order about 1,100 acres cut, and that several times this amount of land would be condemned last year.

Co-operation Does It

Rather surprisingly, this somewhat drastic policy has not brought any real difficulties. In a case where drastic action is called for, approval must be secured from the Alberta Field Crops Commissioner, but this approval has never been refused and there is a fine co-operative understanding between the province and the municipality. Similarly, while there is no committee of the municipal council under which Mr. Bjorkland works, there is an informal committee, consisting of the reeve and the district agriculturist, who, together with Mr. Bjorkland, discuss things together, and in many cases are able to work out a particular problem to the mutual advantage of the municipality and the owner or operator of the land. The use of condemnation orders involves practical farming considerations, of course, and this is the principal reason why Mr. Bjorkland's work begins on the 1st of March, in order to give him opportunity to plan with the owners of land how the weed menace can be kept under control on land already heavily infested.

No order for cutting a crop or condemning land is ever given unless it is carried out; but it appears that it is the spirit in which these orders are given that has enabled the program of the municipality to be carried on as successfully as it has been. I was interested, when visiting the municipal office in Red Deer, to find one window of the office devoted to an attractive and instructive exhibit related to weed control; and I learned later that Mr. Bjorkland carries the weed exhibits to field days and various gatherings within the Municipal District, and that these arouse considerable interest. He makes it a practice to be in the municipal office each Saturday, and averages from 10-20 callers.



Weed control is best achieved co-operatively through municipal support. These Guide camera shots could be duplicated in hundreds of places on the prairies



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FERTILIZER DIVISION

It was interesting to learn also that the weed control program has been carried to the seed cleaning outfits operating within the district, and that use is made of the fact that persons can be prevented from hauling foul grain or seed along the highways. As a result, cleaning outfits are inspected, and when they have obtained the approval of the weed inspector, they do not hesitate to advertise this fact. The weed control program is discussed at meetings of the Municipal District Council, and publicity through the local press is obtained as the result of these discussions.

Asked about the question of roadside weeds and whose responsibility it was to keep them down, Mr. Bjorkland said that this responsibility was placed on the farmer himself. Nevertheless, under present conditions of labor scarcity, considerable leniency is observed, but that meanwhile, more thorough roadside control of weeds is planned for the post-war period.—H.S.F.

Erosion Really Costs a Lot

INVESTIGATIONAL work with the erosion of soils in the state of Oregon indicates that a loss of one-quarter to one-third of the top soil will cause a reduction of three to six bushels per acre in the yield of wheat; and on relatively steep slopes where all the top soil has been removed by erosion, first class land may become marginal for wheat production.

Loss from erosion varies according to the type of soil and the circumstances, but the rate of erosion is accelerated as time goes on and erosion losses, according to the Oregon investigators, accumulate like compound interest, from year to year. Thus, if the decrease in yield over a period of 50 years amounts to 6.1 bushels per acre as in one Oregon district, and it takes $7\frac{1}{2}$ years to remove one inch of top soil, this means only a loss of .91 bushels of wheat yield for each inch of soil loss. This again means an annual decrease in wheat yield per acre of only .12 bushels, and an annual income loss of 8.4 cents per acre. These are small figures, but they apply to the first year only. The next year the loss is 16 cents, the third year 24 cents, so that in ten years the loss is \$4.63 per acre, where wheat is valued at 70 cents per bushel.

These Oregon investigators have gone a step further and they show that for a representative wheat farm in the same area, the loss in income, due to soil erosion, will average \$131 per year, or \$1,315 for the entire period. However, by the tenth year, the cumulative loss has amounted to 344 bushels of wheat per year, which at 70 cents per bushel means a loss of \$241 instead of the \$131 average for the entire period.

Careful Crop Planning Increases Yields

WORK with field crops over many years at the Dominion Experimental Station at Morden seems to prove that the productivity of the soil not only can be retained, but that its fertility can be improved and the returns per acre increased by the growing of a variety of crops, including both grasses and legumes, along with grain and inter-tilled crops in suitable rotations over a period of years.

For the last 22 years, Morden has been investigating five different cropping systems. It has been found, for example, that wherever alfalfa has been used for at least two years, the yields of subsequent crops have been increased; but after crested wheat grass was plowed under, the yield of the following crops was reduced for at least one year. Yields of wheat following corn have been equal to wheat on summerfallow, but in this connection it is not contended that the same result would follow with wheat after corn in areas where the rainfall is substantially lower than at Morden.

In dry years, sweet clover followed by oats or wheat, has produced yields fully equal to wheat crops following alfalfa. Morden has found, for example, that on the lighter types of soil, alfalfa tends to kill out after about three years; and that in general, crops following sweet clover are markedly increased in yield, while weeds are more effectively controlled and soil and water erosion largely eliminated.

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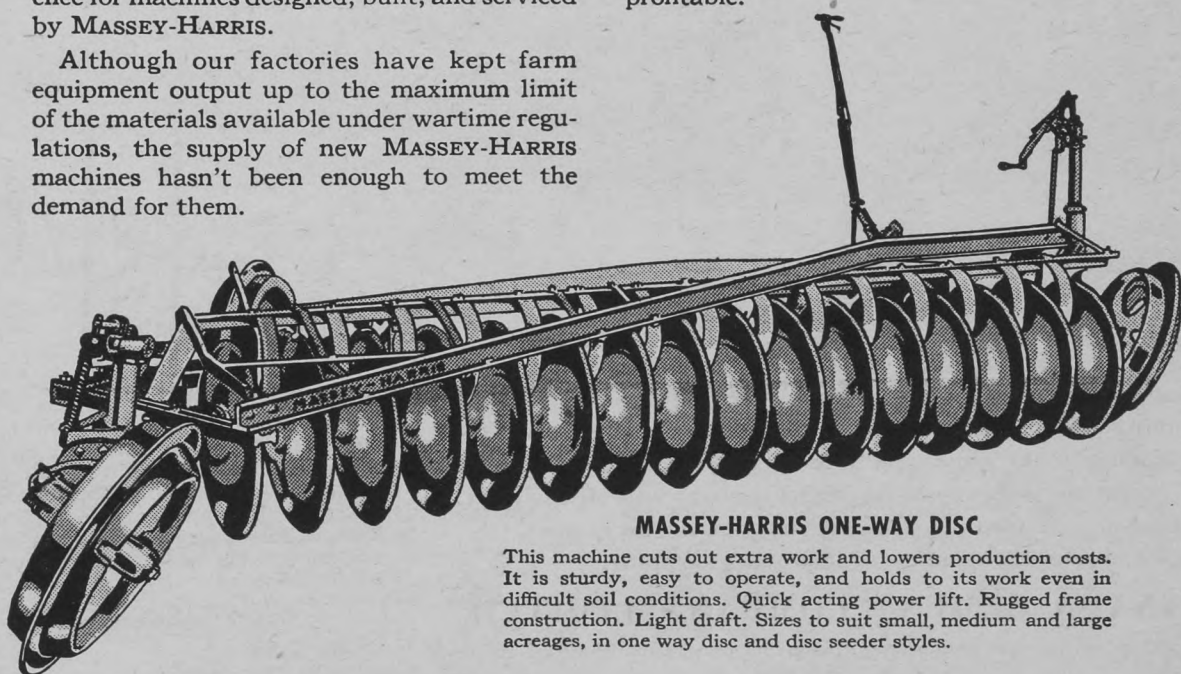


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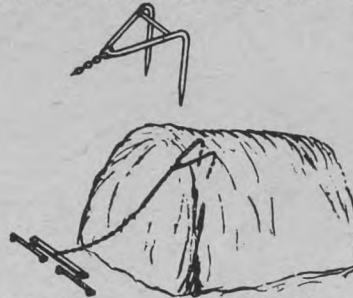
Address.....

Around Farm and Workshop

Including ideas that may come in handy this winter

Straw Pile Stripper

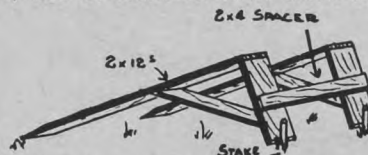
This sketch shows a device for making easier the work of stripping off the wet frozen surface from the straw pile so as to get at the dry straw. Take an old 12-foot drill shaft to the blacksmith and have him heat and bend it into shape and sharpen the ends as shown. A bar is



then welded across to stiffen the device. By pushing down the tines and pulling with a team or tractor, you can quickly strip down to clean straw.—I.W.D.

Truck Unloading Hoist

Here is a diagram of a hoist for a truck to unload grain. Two of these are set, one in front of each truck front



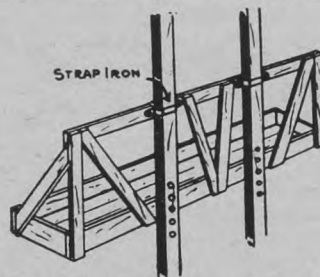
wheel. Drive up on it, then block the rear wheel or set the brake. This raises the front end of the truck and makes it much easier to unload grain into the elevator. The drive-on part is of 2x12 about 5 feet long, the supporting parts 2x12, 2 feet long, while the brace is also 2x12 about 2 feet long.

Note by editor—It would seem necessary to have a rod or heavy twisted wire parallel to the brace to prevent the shove from wracking the framework. Also that the end bracing should be of two crossed braces instead of the one shown.

Adjustable Manger

When snow, hay and manure pile up, this manger may be raised to prevent cattle from getting into it. It may also be used inside a building where the posts may be a part of the barn framing. Outside the posts may be set permanently in the ground, or if preferred, be part of a movable frame.

The feed bunk itself consists of two main parts—the feed trough built of 2x12-inch planks; and the rack part of a 2x8 top piece and a 2x6 bottom



piece, with 2x4 uprights and 2x6 braces. Heavy strap iron guides are bolted through the top member of the rack, while the weight is carried on short pieces of pipe or bars slipped through holes in the uprights. The feed bunk may be raised up out of the way or removed entirely when cleaning out the yard.—I.W.D.

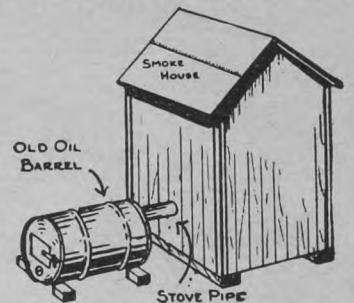
Broom to Sweep Snow

An ordinary broom can be used for cleaning walks of fairly deep snow and slush by stiffening it with a piece of plywood. Bore two rows of six 1/4-inch holes and lace through the broom with heavy cord.



Meat Smoker

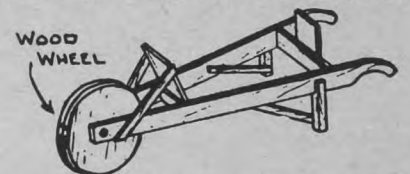
The diagram shows a method for smoking meat. When again available, a



steel barrel or oil drum is placed at one side of the building. Run one or two lengths of stovepipe from the barrel to the smoke house. A door at the far end of the barrel admits air and wood and should be so arranged that the draft can be almost entirely closed after the fire is started. This keeps the meat from getting too hot and prevents fires which occur so frequently when the fire is built in an old kettle or tub.

Hauls Firewood

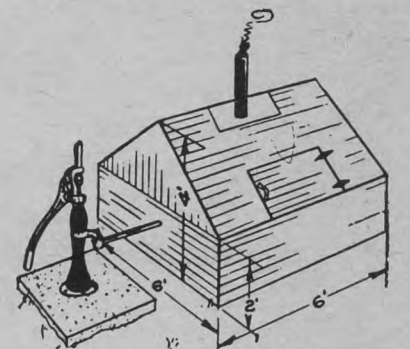
I made a small wheelbarrow for carrying wood into the house, out of scrap lumber. I can load this in the woodshed, push it all the way into the house, and then unload it into the woodbox. I made the wheel out of two thicknesses of inch board nailed together at right angles, cut out in a 12-inch circle, and with a small piece of flat iron on each side to



act as a bearing. I tacked a piece of old inner tube around the edge of the wheel to keep it from picking up dirt. A few boards tacked on top of the wheelbarrow permits it to be used for other purposes.—I.W.D.

Water Tank Cover

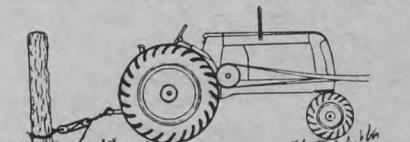
A small shack of old lumber can be built over and around a tank to hold in



the heat from the tank heater. There are two openings for the stock to drink from, one on each side of the roof, as the tank is half in one lot and half in another, with covers which can be laid back on the roof during the mild part of the day. There will be no trouble with ice in the tank, and it is light enough so two men can lift it off in the spring and put it back in the fall.—I.W.D.

Tightens Tractor Belt

To hold a light tractor for belt work, set a heavy stake or fence post firmly in



the ground about ten feet back of the tractor and attach a tackle block or patent wire stretcher to post and drawbar. This will hold the tractor even on muddy ground, and also provide a convenient means of tightening the belt.



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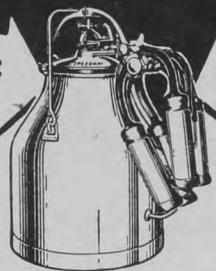
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MEET THE DAIRY INDUSTRY

Continued from page 9

namely, the urgent need for dairy foods and the extreme shortage of labor. The convention felt that a price of 25 cents f.o.b. factory, for cheese, would be necessary if the contract for 125 million pounds of cheese per year, to March, 1946, was to be met and Canadian consumers allowed to purchase a reasonable quantity. At the present time, the maximum domestic price, including quality bonuses, is 24 cents per pound, Montreal, and the export contract price is 20 cents per pound plus quality premiums. There is also a subsidy of 20 cents per hundred for cheese milk, expiring March 31, 1945.

A subsidy of 10 cents per pound but-terfat is now in effect which will carry through to April 30, and the Dairy Farmers of Canada feel that if present levels of butter rationing are not to be still further reduced, the subsidy will need to be increased, as at May 1, to 12 cents per pound until October 1, at which time it should rise to 15 cents per pound until April 30 next year.

In the fluid milk field, that is, milk retailed for consumption in towns and cities, the convention approved the recommendation that the present subsidy of 55 cents per hundred pounds of fluid milk be continued throughout the year, instead of the present subsidy of 35 cents per hundred pounds from May 1 to September 30, and 55 cents from October 1 to April 30 this year. Dairy producers also favor the continuation, as a permanent policy, of the present 2-cent consumer subsidy on milk, in the interests of national health. A further recommendation is that a level price throughout the year be established on a quota basis, for fluid milk; and that federal authorities show greater willingness to accept recommendations from provincial milk control boards, especially with regard to adjustments of prices to meet abnormal conditions in particular areas. The place of milk in safeguarding the health of the nation was also recommended as an essential feature in any national health plan for Canada.

An increase in the subsidy for concentrated milk products was also recommended, in order to maintain production and to keep returns to producers of evaporated milk in line with returns in other branches of the industry. The proposed subsidy would be 30 cents per hundred pounds throughout the year, as compared with the present subsidy of 15 cents per hundred from May 1 to September 30, and 30 cents from October 1 to April 30.

For the first time, in an experience dating back to 1914, this observer heard, at the convention of the Dairy Farmers of Canada, the chairman of a standing committee on research present a report to a producers' organization. The report covered a very broad field, and pointed to the need for research in many directions affecting the dairy industry. Its most notable feature, however, was the fact that in no single instance was any mention made of any research project initiated by, or participated in by the Dairy Farmers of Canada. Perhaps it is enough to expect for a start that there should be such a committee, and that it should make a report; and perhaps it will be possible at the next annual convention for the committee to report that certain research work is under way at the instigation of the organization.

The Dairy Farmers of Canada is a comparatively young organization. For many years the national interest of milk producers was served by participation in the National Dairy Council, organized at the conclusion of World War I. The time came when milk producers felt the need of a national organization of their own, and a separation was effected. It is no secret to anyone long

acquainted with Canadian agriculture that organizations of dairy producers are difficult, both to organize on a permanent basis, and to adequately finance. No one knows better than one with experience, that an income of \$9,000 for a national dairy producers' organization is woefully inadequate. Probably two out of every three farmers in Canada have some milk or cream to sell, and are thereby affected by the activities of the Dairy Farmers of Canada. It would seem easy to adequately finance a national dairy producers' organization, but it isn't; and one can only wish success to the officers and the 25 directors of this organization, who are attempting to build up and strengthen a national voice for this vitally important branch of Canadian agriculture.—H.S.F.

THE FARM GOES TO UNIVERSITY

Continued from page 9

but with the work of the Extension Department of the University of Saskatchewan, as revealed in the very excellent report rendered by Prof. John G. Rayner, professor of extension. Prof. Rayner's report is always a feature of the agricultural societies' convention, because he has been supervisor of the work of these societies for more than 24 years, and in this capacity acts not only as Director of Extension for the university, but as agent of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, appointed by the legislature of the province through the medium of the Agricultural Societies Act. These societies now number 151 in Saskatchewan, but in these times of labor stringency and preoccupation with wartime problems, less than half are really active. Only 43 held agricultural exhibitions last year, but this figure compares with 30 exhibitions in 1937, and 143 in 1925. In the latter year, however, there were only seven different kinds of activities engaged in by agricultural societies. Last year there were 19. They ranged all the way from farm radio forum groups and excursions to the university, to farm boys' and girls' camps, seed fairs, field competitions, and farm machinery demonstrations.

The boys' and girls' club work has, of course, suffered numerically during the war. In 1939 there were 7,505 club members divided among 354 junior clubs. Last year the membership had fallen to 3,135 members in 165 clubs.

The university by no means confines its efforts throughout the province to the work of agricultural societies, but wherever a local society can be persuaded to "go active" the Extension Department is invariably ready to co-operate. The over-all effort and the variety of enterprise supervised by Prof. Rayner and his small but select staff of assistants, is certainly impressive. Much interest and time is expended profitably on the junior club work, including swine clubs, baby beef clubs, poultry clubs and dairy calf clubs. In addition there were, last year, farm boys' and farm girls' camps conducted at 12 agricultural exhibitions, where nearly 1,200 boys and girls were in attendance. Ten of the agricultural societies held livestock shows and sales during the year. A total of 29 field days were held in various parts of the province and arranged by the extension department. These were in addition to 109 farm machinery field days. The latter activity shows a somewhat phenomenal growth, being more than double the number held in 1943, and over 2½ times the number held in 1942. Already, applications had been received for 27 machinery field days in 1945. "It is an interesting fact," said Prof. Rayner, "that few extension activities have, in their initial stages, been treated with more reserve. Most men are somewhat jealous of their ability to run their tractor or farm machine, and are therefore sometimes skeptical of the ability



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of a university professor to show them anything. However, practically every field day can count its quota of men who came to scoff but who went away converted." Anyone who has attended one of these field days with Professor E. A. Hardy, head of the Department of Agricultural Engineering at the university, will understand why this is so.

Many Kinds of Service

The Extension Department has not neglected horticulture in Saskatchewan. Not only did it join with the Saskatchewan Horticultural Societies Association to hold the first provincial fruit show at Saskatoon last August, but it has initiated an orchard project, open to any agricultural society, and has added to its staff during the past year a specialist in horticulture in the person of Mr. D. R. Robinson. A total of 138 farmers associated with ten agricultural societies in the province are now co-operating in the orchard projects.

The Youth Training program, supervised by the Extension Department under the Dominion-Provincial Youth Training scheme, is supervised by Dr. Lorne C. Paul, a newcomer to the Extension staff in 1944. In this connection, Professor Rayner noted a substantially increased inclination on the part of rural young people to seek further training. There are this year at the university, in the five-months School of Agriculture course, 150 students, a very excellent class whom I lunched with and sat in class with for a time. The Youth Training classes consist of three-day, two-week and one-month rural courses conducted in various parts of the province. There were in hand applications for 47 such courses, not all of which could be accommodated because of lack of teaching staff.

For the last seven years, the university has joined with co-operative organizations in conducting a one-week mid-summer course on co-operation, which was attended last year by 205 students, mostly young people.

The Extension Department is also one of the sponsors of the National Farm Radio Forum in Saskatchewan, where 60 groups are sending weekly reports to T. A. Homersham, provincial secretary. Professor K. W. Gordon, long associated with the Extension Department, is also provincial secretary of the Citizens' Forum, now in its second season and having 120 groups functioning in Saskatchewan. In somewhat the same field a considerable number of study groups are served through the Extension Department. Study pamphlets on a wide variety of subjects are furnished. Extra-mural university lectures are provided at several centres by the university in co-operation with the Canadian Legion Educational Services. An educational film service is maintained at the university, where a total of 224 films are on loan for use throughout the province, from the National Film Board and from commercial organizations. It was reported that since August, 1944, 36 organizations had borrowed 155 films, to be shown to more than 18,000 people.

There is also maintained at the university a library of plays numbering 1,400, which are lent to school and adult drama groups, some of them associated with the Saskatchewan Drama League. The Extension Department also conducts a very extensive bulletin service, and Professor Rayner estimated that during the last university year over 100,000 bulletins were distributed on request to farmers and others interested. This year he calculated the total would be considerably greater.

These many services do not by any means, comprise a complete list of activities which a university extension department can offer. It is sufficiently impressive, however, to dispel from the mind of any reasonable person the idea that a university should attract only bookworms and pedants. University Farm Week in Saskatoon is an attempt to focus attention on the many services which the university can render, not only to students enrolled for the full academic year, but to all citizens of the province. It was undoubtedly a successful week, because of its fine weather, a larger attendance than usual, and the prospect of much greater attendance at the various short courses to be held during the remainder of the winter,

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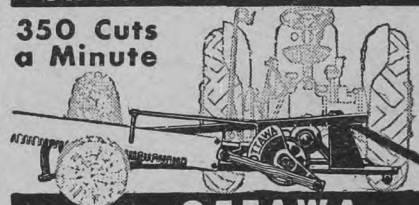
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than facilities at the university could adequately provide for.

(Perhaps the most uncomfortable and inconsistent feature of an otherwise excellent seat of learning, and at the same time the most unfortunate architectural misfit to be found anywhere in western Canada, is Convocation Hall at Saskatoon, where most of the meetings during Farm Week are held. Surely a government so nearly brand new and so obviously dedicated to culture and the rights of man, could, and should, find means of rectifying this incongruous combination of culture, creaking floor boards, and exasperating acoustics.)—H.S.F.

THE YAPPING YODLER

Continued from page 6

furs. So coyote hunting was particularly fashionable last winter, and farmers coaxed their wives to milk Molly and feed Prince and Rex while the men-folks grabbed up rifles and traps or whistled favorite hounds to heel and jubilantly set off after the tawny pelts. Coyote hunting has always been one of the major winter sports of the western farmer—and when sport becomes profitable, more join the fun!

One farmer in southern Saskatchewan who owns three well-trained hounds caught and skinned 68 coyotes in a single week's hunting last winter. A fourteen-year-old schoolgirl, living on a farm near Castor, Alberta, made herself some sizeable pocket money from 11 coyote pelts she collected, her equipment consisting of one saddle horse, a ball-peen hammer with a double length handle, and one hound. Girl and horse did the scouting, the hound ran down and held the quarry, and the hammer provided the rap on the noggin which officially finished the coyote.

A truck driver, who always carries a .22 rifle in his cab, made himself over a hundred dollars extra by sniping off coyotes whenever he got the chance, and he shot several along the main Calgary-Edmonton highway. Farm boys became keen on trapping lore, and there is at least one record of a bloody fight between two young hot-heads to decide which owned the trapping rights near a dead horse!

The hound system of coyote hunting has been gaining in favor among Western farmers and good coyote hounds now command fancy hundred dollar prices where once a \$15 houn' dawg was something to see. Many hound hunters have mixed packs, breeding and training some dogs for the straight running job, another type for the kill, often a "yapper" to rattle the coyote victim, and sometimes a special heavier hound for the tough bush chase. Most good hound-hunters fit up their cars, trucks, or bobsleighs with special quarters for the dogs and plan on driving as close as possible to a sighted quarry before releasing the hounds for their speedy part of the chase. By saving the dogs this way, six or more coyotes may be taken in a single day without the hounds losing any speed or efficiency. Some hound-hunters have developed the sport into a high-paying proposition, and the Saskatchewan man who bagged 68 coyotes in one week is reputed to have sold nearly \$5,000 worth of coyote pelts as his winter's take.

Shooting is only a chance method of bagging coyote for the pelt market, but some men have a system developed to a science. Invariably they use fast, long-ranged rifles equipped with telescope sights. The .270 is a favorite calibre, using a light-grained jacketed bullet, and even the heavier .303 and 30.06 are favored more than the smaller calibres, flat trajectory and long range being the two features most desired in a coyote rifle. The well-known .250-3000 is still considered one of the finest coyote weapons obtainable, and in brush country the pioneer favorite, the 30-30, is still good enough for hard wallops at close range.

But the wild dogs are getting better educated about rifles all the time, and it is seldom that the shooter gets a chance to draw a bead at less than 150 yards on a wily coyote. Hence the need for telescope sights and a long range weapon. One Alberta game warden, an expert rifle shot, consistently bags coyotes on the prairies at ranges upwards of 250 yards, and made one witnessed kill at 390 yards with his 30.06 rifle equipped with an extra good 'scope. When it is remembered that a coyote is only about eight inches deep at the hefty part of the chest, the marvellous accuracy of such a shot can be properly appreciated. Yet, despite all the experts, farm boys still account for dozens of coyotes every winter by shooting straight and fast with the deadly little .22's.

For quality results, by far the most common way of catching a coyote pelt is by means of the cruel science of trapping. Snaring has been outlawed in most provinces except on a farmer's own land, because snares are too often a serious threat to stock, big game, and valuable dogs. Poisoned bait is another dangerous trick which may backfire and cause the death of innocents, and the excellent old Indian deadfall has fallen into disuse because it requires so much time to build. Today, the No. 3 steel trap is the standard weapon of the professional and farmer trapper who seeks the wily coyote. The procedure of setting a trap for a coyote is an art unto itself, with many a closely-guarded secret to mark the successful trapper from the novice.

The trapper who wishes to get consistent returns from his coyote sets must observe a few cardinal rules: his traps should be deodorized of human taint by blood-rub, boiling, or spraying with special preparations; he should have a pair of gloves which have the outer surfaces similarly deodorized and should carry these outside his pack and save them expressly for the business of trap-setting; a trapping mat, or skin rug, should be used to stand or kneel on when making a coyote set to keep human scent from the immediate trap vicinity. These precautions may sound fussy, but the best trappers do not grudge the extra work to help guarantee the success of a set. They also carry clean paper to shield the trap's trigger pan, and a bag of scentless sand or earth to spread over the dry sets.

As for the type of set the best trappers use, they are as varied as they are secret. Most trappers make use of the knowledge that coyotes love to go to the top of a knoll or hillock near the bait carcass, the wily animals favoring the highest ground as a look-out point. Therefore, when a dead horse or cow is the drawing card for the slim wolves, the professional rarely bothers to set a trap alongside the bait, but invariably places a trap or traps on top of the nearest knoll—even if an artificial knoll has to be built to accomplish this idea. Again utilizing this height-loving habit of the coyote, many successful trappers favor the tops of isolated straw stacks as fruitful places for unbaited traps.

Coyotes are like dogs regarding their interest in scent-posts, and if a trapper finds a coyote scent-post he can usually depend on catching at least one coyote at such a spot. Sometimes a trapper creates a productive concentration point by using the bladder contents of coyotes he has previously captured.

Rabbit run sets are favored by farm boys, who know of the coyote's habit of trotting along these hard-packed snow avenues. When a rabbit run is made, care has to be taken that the trap trigger-pan is securely braced against the weight of a rabbit's pads, and it needs a nice judgment to reckon how much or how little support the trigger requires so that it will not spring on a rabbit and yet react swiftly to a coyote.

By far the most successful chance set can be made on a mouse-infested moss-bank or field ridge, a spot certain to attract the repeated attention of every coyote in the vicinity. Some trappers make sure of the continued presence of mice at suitable trap locations by baiting

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such areas with chaff and grain deposits. One successful coyote trapper has developed a special mouse-baited set which has worked so well that he has caught several coyotes by all four feet, the animals having pounced directly onto his trap-pan in the manner described at the start of this article. The details of the set, sez he, are his pet secret.

But, despite hounds, bullets and traps, coyotes will continue to howl their yapping choruses from their favorite hill-tops in your rural neighborhood, for a smart percentage of them will always evade man's best plots for their destruction. And while I sympathize with any farmer who has lost poultry or sheep or cattle to this sly dog of the wilds, I cannot help but be pleased that some members of the picturesque tribe will survive to provide us with yarns and sport and music so typical of our western land.

Coyote yarns are almost in the legend class. You probably heard about the rancher who spent \$100 for an exceptionally smart female hound who was supposed to be death on coyotes and turned her loose on the grey villain who was plaguing his sheep. The tale has it that hound and coyote disappeared into the dusty distance, and three months later the lady hound returned to her master proudly mothering six pups which all had a distinctly coyote cast of feature! And you may know the one about the special coyote exterminator a ranchers' association imported to clean out the lean wolves: the coyotes took turns at howling under this man's window every night and all night long, giving him a chronic case of insomnia and forcing him to leave the West! Then there is the story about the coyote who preferred eggs to poultry, and the farmer had to race this particular animal to his chicken-coop every time a hen cackled and announced the advent of a fresh-laid egg!

My own favorite coyote story, gospel true, was told to me by Alan Connell, who formerly lived in the High River ranching flats. He worked for a rancher

who was excessively proud of his pedigreed flock of poultry and the \$1,000 hen-house he had built for them, and this rancher conceived a flaming hatred for a certain coyote cursed with a fondness for pedigreed fowl. Poison, snares, and runnin' dawgs all failed when used against this coyote, and, finally, the wily rancher sat up all night with a string-pull attached to his hen-house trap door, in the gray dawn the coyote nipped through the trap door to grab a chicken; the rancher jerked the string and the animal was trapped inside the expensive coop. Then, instead of humanely killing the animal by means of rifle or shot-gun, the rancher rigged up a net at the trap-door entrance, opened the door, and captured the animal as it dashed out. The rancher produced a large stick of dynamite, which he proceeded to tie onto the coyote's tail. When all was ready, a match was applied to the dynamite fuse and the coyote shaken clear of the net and the rancher and cowboys stood back to watch the animal scoot for the hills and blow up. But the coyote didn't behave according to plan: the scared animal ducked back through the trap-door into the hen-house and stubbornly refused to be budged from its retreat under the loaded roosts. When the fuse burned down to the dynamite, the coyote, pedigreed poultry, and \$1,000 hen-house all went sky-high!

Soviet Union Speeds Recovery

NOTWITHSTANDING the great destruction in Russia as the result of the war and the heavy drain on manpower created by her losses and the development of war industry, Russia is coming back rapidly to agricultural production. Press dispatches recently recorded the biggest cattle drive in history when over a period of six months, one million head of dairy cattle, sheep and goats from the interior of the Soviet Union, were moved to the liberated areas in the west. The livestock was divided into 2,400 herds and followed 23 routes. It required 25,000 persons and 540 supply depots to service the drive. Four thousand herdsmen and 2,500 experienced assistants, as well as 700 doctors and the same number of veterinarians were involved. In one drive of 600 sheep that covered 1,500 miles, the flock gained an average of more than a pound in weight during the drive.

Last fall, Russia seeded over 12 million acres more to winter wheat than the year previous. This acreage is more than 50 per cent of the total Canadian wheat acreage, and the increase does not include spring wheat, which is also grown in Russia.

Linen From Common Flax Straw

CLOTH made from linen yarn, which was in turn made from the straw of flax grown for seed, has stood up as well after 60 launderings as imported linen in Minnesota. The process whereby straw from the ordinary flax crop, instead of the special fibre flax heretofore used for manufacturing, can be used for the manufacture of linen yarn and thread, was worked out at the University of Minnesota. A pilot plant is expected to be completed sometime this year, as a result of which it will be possible to manufacture about 100 pounds of yarn per day.

The fibres are separated from the wood under this process, by mechanical means, instead of by the ordinary process of retting. The straw is crushed between especially designed rollers and the fibres are wound on perforated spools, while at the same time a chemical is forced through them.

It is suggested that, if, and when, the process is commercially adopted, farmers will probably deliver their entire flax seed crop, including the seed, to the fibre processing plant, just as vegetable crops are now delivered for canning. The processor would separate the seed from the straw, and in addition to paying for it, might be able to pay about \$10 per ton for straw. Something less than ten tons of straw are required to produce one ton of fibre.

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MONTHLY COMMENTARY

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Has Canada Too Much Wheat?

The Honorable Mr. Gardiner, minister of agriculture, said at a meeting of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture that Canada has too much wheat. Both at that meeting and later, a tendency developed to argue with the minister of agriculture on this point. However, it was quite evident that what Mr. Gardiner was trying to do was not to start a discussion about world needs for wheat, or how Canadian supplies could be disposed of later. What he was trying to do was to emphasize the desire of the government to get a larger acreage put into feed grains in 1945. Quite evidently that can only be accomplished if some acreage that would otherwise go into wheat is transferred to coarse grains. The essential point is that if the present livestock production of North America is to be maintained, great quantities of feed grains are going to be necessary. Unless there is a large acreage of oats and barley in western Canada there is some danger that the supply may be insufficient.

Division of Crop Acreage

To say that is not to advise any individual farmer how he should divide up his crop acreage in 1945. That is something that can only satisfactorily be decided by each farmer for himself. It will be more easily decided when the government price policy for the coming year has been definitely announced. At this time it would seem likely that the price policy and the guarantees given to farmers will be practically the same as in 1944. If crops this year are heavy, and that is at least possible, opportunities for delivering grain may be delayed. Some farmers will feel that if they are going to have to store grain on the farm for any considerable period they would prefer to store wheat, because they can get a greater value of wheat in the same space than is possible with coarse grains. Others will take exactly the opposite view, that if elevator and transportation space is congested, they would prefer to have coarse grains, and to market those in the form of livestock.

As to the prospective demands for different kinds of grain, we should not count on the United States again wanting to import large quantities of Canadian wheat as for a while that country did. Because last year's harvest was remarkably heavy they have a great surplus of wheat at the present time. And they are looking forward to another heavy wheat crop in 1945, because the winter wheat crop prospects up to the present are extremely good. Their crops of feed grains were also remarkably good, but at the present rate of consumption these are likely to be pretty well used up by the end of the crop year, so there will be no heavy surplus to be carried forward into another crop year. What crops of oats, corn, and other feeds will be harvested this fall will not be influenced, as is the case with wheat, by conditions which prevailed some months ago. All the other grains will be sown in the spring, and production will depend upon spring and summer weather. No matter how good the harvested crops turn out to be, it is reasonable to expect a continuing American demand for Canadian oats, because they are cheaper than the home grown product, and from anything in sight at this time, that price relationship is likely to continue. The extent to which such a demand can be satisfied will depend, as is the case right now, on the extent to which railway cars and lake vessels can be spared to transport oats. Similarly, there is no present reason to expect that the demand from the United States for Canadian barley will not continue, at least for malting barley. Production of malting barley in that country has not for some time been equal to current demands.

The call for wheat will be almost entirely a matter of the progress of the

war, and the extent to which ocean transportation can be obtained for it. The time has not yet come when a market demand overseas for wheat can be discussed. It seems probable that wheat and flour shipped to Europe will be largely furnished through governmental agencies, with small attention paid as to how and when it can be paid for. When German resistance ceases, and ocean shipping is no longer largely taken up with carrying troops and war supplies to Europe, it is expected that many ships will be freed to carry foodstuffs to Europe. But it is also likely that a great part of the shipping freed will be required to carry troops and supplies to the Indian Ocean and to the Pacific for the war against Japan.

Good Farming Practice will Decide

The individual farmer, in determining how to divide his crop acreage among wheat, oats and barley will probably base his decision on what appears to be good farming practice on his own farm, more than on calculations as to expected demands for different grains. Flax presents a problem of a different sort, for the government will probably continue to take all flax produced in western Canada at a guaranteed price.

If the government announces an increase from the present price level an increase in flax acreage is to be expected. Otherwise an increase is unlikely. A continuing scarcity of oils makes a price increase probable, unless the government decides that shipping is likely to be available to bring into use the large supplies of flax seed in store in Argentina.

For such reasons it is not necessary now to discuss whether Canada has or is likely to have too much wheat. The important thing is to make sure that agricultural production this year, overall, is as great as it can be made, and that there is a sufficient production of crops other than wheat.

Restoration Hoped For of European Grain Production

One of the immediate objectives of UNRRA, as the United Nations' Relief and Rehabilitation Administration is briefly called, is to restore as quickly as possible the production of grain in the devastated areas of Europe. For that reason preparations now in progress for relief measures in Europe put great stress on seed grain, of fertilizer and of farm machinery. The authorities have decided that only to a limited extent will it be possible to supply Europe's need for grain with imports, and that reliance must be placed on domestic production. Later, European countries will be encouraged to develop production of live-

stock, of vegetables, and of other foods. For the next year or two, however, it will not be possible to get the desirable quantities of such foods, and different populations will have to rely largely on cereals, and cereals which can be produced at home.

All authorities appear to agree that in the long run it is going to be better for various European countries to have a smaller wheat acreage than in prewar years, and to rely largely upon wheat imports, in order that agricultural land and labor can be devoted to those types of food which cannot be imported, and must be produced at home if the population is to have an adequate variety of food. But solutions of that problem will have to wait until assurance has been obtained that an adequate quantity of food of some kind can be supplied during the next two years. For that reason we can expect that for a short time there will be emphasis on getting seeded the maximum possible acreage of wheat in European countries. For such reasons it is going to be difficult, until the first period of relief and rehabilitation is over, to calculate with much confidence the level at which Canadian wheat acreage can safely be maintained during the years to come.

Canadian Grain for Southern Hemisphere

Both Australia and New Zealand are attempting to buy Canadian wheat and oats. There is a scarcity of grain in those countries because of crop failures experienced in 1944. The reversal of conditions as against those prevailing a year ago is remarkable, for during the previous year Australia was selling wheat in the United States. That country was building up its stocks of wheat by imports, not being able to anticipate the tremendous harvest of grain to be realized in 1944. Even now there are huge piles of Australian wheat at California ports, where it had to be dumped on arrival, as there was neither storage space to house it, nor sufficient rail transportation available to move it where it could be used. Now both Australia and the United States are in the position of wishing that such wheat had never left Australia.

Although Canada has both wheat and oats to spare, there are a lot of difficulties to be overcome before Australia can be supplied from this country. Most important of these, of course is shipping. The grain cannot be moved unless vessels can be spared from war uses for its transport, and the demands on cargo space to supply the different theatres of war are still tremendous. These have been eased to some extent, it is true, by the recent opening of the Dardanelles by Turkey to allied vessels. Supplies for Russia can now go by what is now the easy and safe Mediterranean route, against the very long route through the Persian Gulf which was formerly employed, and the dangerous and costly route to the Arctic port of Murmansk. Once vessels are assured, there are large quantities of wheat at Pacific Coast ports ready to be moved. Much of that can be transported in bulk, in the holds of freighters, but for some vessels, and for some ports in Australia it may be necessary to sack it. There is some sacking equipment available at Vancouver, but the supply of sacks creates a problem, and the process of sacking slows down the loading of ships.

Next comes the question of price. If Australia needs the wheat badly enough, it can of course be supplied in the same way as wheat for Great Britain, on the Mutual Aid plan, essentially as a gift from Canada. Both Canada and Australia, it is understood, would prefer to have the transaction on the basis of sale, even if credit has to be extended. In that case the question of price is important, and Canadian wheat, at its

present price for export, approximately \$1.45, when costs of transports are added, is going to seem decidedly expensive in Australia, where much lower prices have prevailed for wheat. Unless the local price structures of those countries are to be completely upset, it would seem necessary for their respective governments to buy the wheat and resell it at a loss.

Still greater difficulties apply in the case of oats. While the southern hemisphere governments have been negotiating directing with The Canadian Wheat Board for wheat, it has been left to the private grain trade in the different countries to attempt to deal with oats. Merchants in Australia and New Zealand have been writing and cabling to Canadian grain dealers asking for quotations on large quantities of oats laid down at different southern hemisphere ports. It is easy enough to quote prices at Vancouver, but difficult under present circumstances to determine what equivalent in Australian currency will represent the cost of getting them there. It is almost impossible for a private firm, when shipping is under Allied control, to enter into a contract to lay down commodities at definite times and places. Another problem is that of shipping quantities. Elevator space at the Pacific Coast is almost entirely occupied with wheat, and under current difficulties of rail transportation it would not be easy to accumulate enough oats there to make up substantial cargoes. And even if the railroads could handle enough cars, it would require the authority of The Canadian Wheat Board to give priority to the movement of oats as against wheat. Then it is to be feared that Canadian oats, if they do arrive in Australia and New Zealand through commercial channels will prove too expensive to accord with ideas of price prevailing there.

If any substantial movement of oats is to take place to the southern hemisphere, it will probably only be by transactions conducted by The Canadian Wheat Board with governmental agencies in Australia and New Zealand. So far, The Canadian Wheat Board has been able to avoid handling oats and barley, leaving transactions to the private trade, and intervening only to regulate transportation and the cost of export permits. It might handle export transactions in these grains for overseas by buying the necessary quantities in Canada, without taking over the handling of such grains shipped to eastern Canada and exported to the United States. But if it were to start any considerable export business on its own account, it would probably be led, almost inevitably, to taking control of the whole business, to the same extent as now prevails in wheat.

Lost and Mislaid Participation Certificates

The Canadian Wheat Board, it is understood, has completed the task of mailing out cheques in settlement for participation certificates for the crops of 1940, 1941 and 1942, that is on the participation certificates mailed in to them for redemption.

The board is now commencing to deal with the problem of lost and mislaid certificates. When claims in respect to such certificates are filed, the board is able to deal with them from duplicate copies of certificates in its possession. To get paid by the Wheat Board however, it is necessary to file a claim, and anyone who has so far neglected to do so, would do well to attend to this promptly. Where it appears that farmers have neglected to send in certificates which they may have in their possession, The Canadian Wheat Board has lately sent out letters asking them to attend to this matter. In one case at least this led to one farmer discovering that he had on hand certificates for the crop of 1941 covering several thousand bushels, about which he had completely forgotten.



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NEIGHBORLY NEWS

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Study Group Formed

The National Film Board have reopened their circuit which includes Silverton. These pictures were well received last year and good results are expected from them again. A study group has been formed in connection with the programs and has been meeting every Tuesday.—Silverton, Man.

U.G.G. Local Reports From Victoria

Recently a well-attended general meeting of the Victoria local No. 404 U.G.G. was held in the Dominion Hotel, the management of which has generously provided accommodation for the past 20 years.

F. B. Yates, the delegate to the annual meeting in Calgary, presented a very interesting and comprehensive report which was well received.

Since the local was formed in 1918 it has grown steadily with a present membership of 234, many of whom were the original organizers and supporters of the Farmer's Company, including the late E. A. Partridge, its first president.

While the present members are somewhat removed from actual grain producing, their roots are still deep in the prairie soil. All are proud of the fact that they individually helped build one of the great business concerns of the West and are looking forward to the day when the Company will come into its own in British Columbia with the settlement of the great wheat producing area of the Central part of the province and a greater trade with the Orient. The meeting was honored by the presence of Chas. E. Hope, the B.C. director who always gives a very lucid and clear cut outline of the Company's affairs.

Scouts and Cubs Parade

About 40 Scouts and Cubs from Minnedosa, Oakburn, Vista, Rosburn, Russell and Hamiota, recently paraded to the Westminster United Church. They had been attending a local examination on leadership. This year National Boy Scout Week will be observed during the week of February 18-24, and it is expected that many more gatherings such as this will be held throughout the country.—Shoal Lake, Man.

Four Generations

The four generation picture below was taken recently in Vancouver. In the centre is Mrs. S. E. Gee-Curtis, formerly of Virden, now of Neepawa, Man. Mrs. Gee-Curtis was for many years president of the United Farm Women of Manitoba, and is spending the winter in Vancouver. To her right is her daughter, Mrs. D. J. Clark, formerly of Virden, now residing in Vancouver, and to her left is her granddaughter, Mrs. Clark's daughter Edith, now Mrs. George Fenwick, of Vancouver, with her baby daughter, Verna Mary Fenwick held by Mrs. Gee-Curtis.



Popular Young Flier Killed in Action

Funeral services and burial were held in the Brownwood field of honor, Surrey, England, for Sgt. Edward Archibald Bishop, 21, R.C.A.F., of Carseland, who was killed in action on January 5. Sergeant Bishop was the son of R. A. Bishop of Carseland, and the brother of Mrs. Emmett Wight, R.N., of Calgary. Born and educated in Carseland, Sgt. Bishop enlisted with the R.C.A.F. in 1942. He took his training in Edmonton, Vancouver, Calgary and Lethbridge where he received his sergeant's stripes, proceeding overseas from Lachine, Que., in July, 1944.

Sgt. Bishop was very popular in this community. His father is one of the district's old timers, and a successful farmer. His mother died in March, 1944. A brother and sister reside in Carseland and Calgary.—Carseland, Alberta.

In Honors List

The residents of Strathclair and district were pleased to see the name of one of our local boys among the honor list of H.M. the King. The boy so honored was F.O. W. G. Campbell, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Campbell.—Strathclair, Manitoba.

Red Cross Committee

At the annual meeting of the Ladies' Red Cross Society of Stornoway, the election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs. A. Hilderman; vice-president, Mrs. W. H. Weeks; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Fred Harris.—Stornoway, Saskatchewan.

Wins Grand Aggregate in Calgary 'Spiel

Glenn Williams, a member of United Grain Growers staff for twenty years, this year skipped the winning rink to the grand aggregate championship at the Calgary 'Spiel' held January 15 to 22. Glenn learned the game in the Bentley and Crossfield districts, where he used to buy grain for United Grain Growers Limited. He and his rink went through the big 'spiel' with the record of fourteen wins against one loss. Considering the many excellent entries from Carstairs, Crossfield, Olds, Bowden and many other towns, this called for very steady and, at times, brilliant curling.

Glenn is now taking his rink into the McDonald Brier event and his progress will be watched with keen interest by his many friends, both in Calgary and throughout the farming communities in Alberta, where he is well known as one of the keenest followers of the roarin' game.—Calgary, Alta.

Blood Donors Organized

The Treherne Young Men's Board of Trade some time ago organized a Blood Donors Clinic. On two occasions when blood has been donated—there were 26 donations in the first, and 38 donations in the second. This is to be a weekly affair from now on, and is under the direction of Dr. McNeill, assisted by Mrs. J. Clark, secretary, Nurses H. Smith and Mrs. Wray. Fine co-operation is being extended by all in the South Norfolk Municipality.—Treherne, Man.

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This ad is addressed to a man who is concerned about his future security and interested in getting a business of his own. He may be too old for heavy work, or young and exempt from military service. Perhaps his income is uncertain or not enough to meet present-day demands. He may be discouraged, but if he has good references and a car, there is a possibility of him qualifying for better than average earnings. He should forward full personal history to the advertiser, Box 158, The Country Guide, Winnipeg.

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Clear out the bots and worms now breeding in your horse's stomach, and give him a new lease on life—new energy and power. A SUR-SHOT does it—quickly and safely. \$1.50 and \$3 boxes from your dealer, or by mail.



A Proud Moment for U.S. Army Nurse



Here's a proud moment in the life of Miss Susie Jantzen, native of Dominion City, who is shown shaking hands with H.M. the Dowager Queen Mary, "somewhere in England." Miss Jantzen who is a U.S. army nursing sister is a sister of Jacob Jantzen and sister-in-law of Peter Wiebe of this community. Both are good neighbors of the Neighborly Elevator.—Dominion City, Man.

Passing of a Young Friend

Many of the Oakburn citizens were shocked by the sudden death of John Wolochatuk. He was on his New Year's leave at the home of his parents at Ethelbert when he was rushed to Dauphin hospital. John was liked for his friendly personality by all during the long period he worked as a mechanic at the garage at Oakburn. He is survived by his wife and a daughter whom he had seen for the first time.—Oakburn, Man.

Fine Work for Red Cross

Medora branch of the Red Cross for the past year reports a total turnover from all activities of \$2,385.69—an increase of about \$800 over 1943. In addition to major amounts already forwarded of \$839.39 to the Red Cross campaign; \$706 to Red Cross headquarters and \$50 to the Junior Red Cross, a cheque for \$550 has recently been forwarded to Red Cross headquarters. As indicated by this large turnover the organization had a busy year of valuable work.—Medora, Man.

Glare Ice Causes Trouble

Many local citizens of Roseray and districts took advantage of a sudden change in the cold weather recently and decided to do a little week-end shopping in Cabri. A surprise overtook them however when it began to rain, turning the roads and sidewalks into a surface of glare ice. Considerable excitement followed when cars and trucks began leaving for home. Loaded with gasoline, the truck belonging to C. G. Waite, of Roseray, began to slide, finally ending up with all four wheels in the air and with gasoline barrels strewn around on both sides of the road.—Roseray, Sask.

Farm Broadcast Official

Robert (Bob) Knowles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Knowles, of Rutland, Sask., is now in charge of the Farm Broadcast heard from Winnipeg each week-day at 12.30 Mountain Time.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Allen, two of the old timers of Rutland and Rosebrier districts have retired from active farming and will reside at the Pacific Coast. These good neighbors will be missed in the community where they took an active part in every worth while activity.—Rutland, Sask.

Local Boys in the Services

This district was proud to welcome home from overseas F/L Bob Kelly, D.F.C.

F/O John Kelly, a brother has returned overseas and another brother, Sgt. Bill Kelly has graduated as a member of his air crew. These boys are sons of Mr. and Mrs. V. L. Kelly. Mr. Kelly is a veteran of the last war.

Sgt. Harold Chisholm is home on leave after graduating as air crew. Two brothers, F/O Garth and P/O Ronald Chisholm, are both overseas with the R.C.A.F.

The people of this district are getting together to make a memorial park in honor of the boys who have paid the supreme sacrifice.—Beulah, Man.

Newdale War Service News

F.O. Allen Lawrence and F.O. Bill Lawrence have both arrived home from Overseas, Bill received the Distinguished Flying Cross. Both are sons of Alex. Lawrence, of Newdale. Another son, Don Lawrence has received his honorable discharge from the R.C.A.F. Private W. F. St. John, was one of 16 stretcher cases who were recently invalided home. Squadron Ldr. J. L. Adams was "mentioned in despatches" in the recent New Year's honor list of awards for service.—Newdale, Sask.

On Atlantic Convoy Duty

F.O. Hanson, P.H., and his wife were welcome McCreary visitors on a recent 25-day furlough. F.O. Hanson has been on duty with the Atlantic Convoy Command at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, for some time, and has had some very interesting experiences while on this work. He is the second son of Mrs. J. H. Hanson. His wife, Jean, is the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Baker, the United Grain Growers agent here. Paul was assistant to the agent of the Company before enlisting in the R.C.A.F.

Corporal Noel Cantin of the Fort Garry's was also a most welcome recent furlough visitor. He is one of ten members of the family of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Cantin wearing the King's uniform. Three of them have given their lives in Canada's service. The others are overseas with the exception of Lionel who is in the R.C.A.F. training in Canada.

Noel has been twice wounded since D Day. The first time was four days after landing in Normandy, and later in Belgium while extricating a wounded comrade from their burning tank.

Noel was assistant to the U.G.G. elevator agent before enlisting for overseas service.

Michel Prekach, Norman Dagg, Russell Greentree, Johnny Morden, are other members of McCreary's gallant band of young heroes who have returned, having been wounded in the service of King and Country. "All honor to them," is the feeling of every citizen of McCreary.—McCreary, Man.

Passing of a Pioneer

J. T. Crosby, an old timer of this district, recently passed away in his 76th year. Coming to this district in the early 90's he farmed near Hargrave for a good number of years until he retired from actual farm work but lived on the farm. Mr. Crosby was among the first to help start the old Grain Growers Association. He served as councillor for a number of years and as trustee on the school board.—Hargrave, Manitoba.

A Tragic Fire Fatality

Mrs. Alf. Graham whose tragic death came as a result of fire which destroyed the Graham home on Christmas Eve is being sadly missed for the active part which she took in all community affairs, and also for her genial personality. The neighborly sympathy felt for the family and relatives has been most manifest during the weeks which have followed of tragedy and suffering.—Beaver, Man.

Game is Scarce

You very seldom see any "Prairie Chicken" or Hungarian birds in this district; this also applies to Jack Rabbits and Bush Rabbits. On the other hand wolves are plentiful and also deer. Have the local nimrods gone "selective" or are they allergic to wolves and deer?

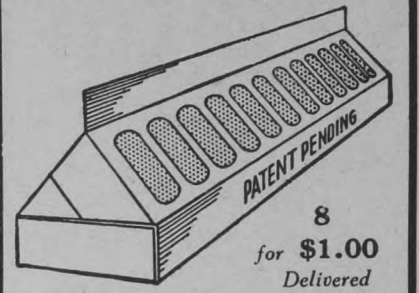
The ten teams are enjoying themselves on the recently erected curling rink and many keen games are played.—Butler, Manitoba.

Home on Leave

Privates William and Albert Drieklick were recent home-on-leave visitors; one prior to embarkation, the other returning to his west coast unit.

W. Crichton who is spending the winter at Vancouver, B.C., is, we understand, giving up farming and intends living in Binscarth upon his return from the Coast. Bill is an old-time horse showman and is well known throughout Manitoba and Saskatchewan fair circuits. His collection of cups and ribbons won at different fairs is large.—Chillon, Manitoba.

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Trial offer — Strong, serviceable Baby Chick Feeders, 8 for \$1.00 delivered. Made of heavy paraffined cardboard. Save money, save feed, save chicks. Keep feed clean. Chicks like to feed from them. Millions sold. Dealers everywhere. If your dealer does not have them, mail us \$1.00 for 8, delivered. Cheaper in larger quantities.

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14.25	7.60	15.75	8.35
28.50	14.75	31.00	16.00
3.00	2.00	4.00	2.50
15.25	8.10	16.75	8.85
25.00	13.00	28.00	14.50
11.00	6.00	12.00	6.50
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POULTRY

Conducted by
Professor W. J. RAE
University of Saskatchewan



Next winter's egg-laying will be influenced by the success achieved in brooding and rearing the new flock.—University of Saskatchewan photo.

Check Your Thermometer

ONE very important though often neglected item is the checking of the brooding thermometer for its accuracy. This may seem to be a minor point, but it can easily mean the difference between a husky bunch of chicks at 10-14 days of age, and a small undersized group which has received a serious setback due to improper temperatures. When we consider that the lungs of the chicks are protected only by a thin layer of skin and some down which has very little insulating value, then the need for a proper amount of heat will be appreciated.

Either overheating or chilling is detrimental to the health of the chick. In fact periods of even a couple of hours of extreme temperatures will have an effect upon growth and mortality. The symptoms are droopiness, lack of interest in the surroundings, and pasting up of the vent. A post mortem examination will show congestion in the lungs—this is recognized by the discoloration. Normal lungs are pink in color.

Chilling is more common than overheating, and is quite noticeable if the chicks begin to pile up. In order to keep their backs warm, one chick will try to get under another, and before long, there will be a large number huddled together for warmth. They soon become overheated, and some may suffocate. To prevent this, the corners of the brooder house should be rounded off with a piece of fine mesh wire or tin.

The proper brooding temperature is 95-100 degrees Fahr. for day-old chicks. This can be lowered about five degrees each week until there is no further need for supplemental heat. The thermometer should be placed on the outer edge of the canopy just two inches above the floor. The room temperature should not be too high as this has a tendency to retard feather growth; 70 degrees is considered ideal.

Even though your thermometer was registering properly last spring, check it now, not after something goes wrong. Test it against a clinical or any other reliable thermometer. Place them in a pan of warm water which is about 100 degrees. If your brooder thermometer is more than a degree or two out, then purchase a new one—the cost is insignificant when compared to the loss resulting from a group of sick or dead chicks.

Frozen Combs

FROZEN combs and wattles are quite a common sight at this time of year. Aside from the pain that must be endured by the birds, there is also an economical problem connected with this trouble. If the frost bites are severe, the males are not very active with the result that fertility is low; production will drop somewhat also as feed consumption declines.

The fault, to a very large extent, lies in poor ventilation rather than in cold weather. While it is true that below zero temperatures are partly responsible, the main cause is the excessive moisture in the poultry house. Too many poultrymen try to keep their pens warm even at the expense of closing up the ventilating system. Birds are well insulated by their feathers and do not require a very high temperature to be comfortable.

A slight touch of frost can be recognized by the whitish color on the points

of the combs. In severe cases, the birds suffer intense pain when the comb is thawing, and part of it will slough off giving the bird the appearance of having been dubbed. While cockerels are more subject to this trouble because of their larger combs and wattles, the pullets, particularly Leghorns, are also very susceptible. Dubbing those breeds which have large combs and wattles is a job for the early fall days when the weather is warm, but should not be attempted now. If there is evidence of frost bite on the birds, rub the affected parts with a solution of tannic glycerine, and provide sufficient ventilation to keep the house dry, as well as raising the water containers 12 inches above the floor so the birds won't get their combs and wattles wet every time they drink.

Effect of Cold Weather on Production

A SUDDEN drop in temperature is usually followed by lowered production, which is due to a decrease in the amount of mash eaten. The problem is then one of increasing the feed consumption of the birds. A slightly larger amount of grain, about 15 pounds per day per 100 birds, will help to keep the birds in good flesh as well as supply heat during the night. Do not fill the mash hoppers to capacity, but plan on adding fresh feed each day—it will not be so cold and unappetizing. A wet mash at noon made up of one ounce of dry mash and one-half ounce of warm water per bird is one good method of increasing consumption. However, if this practice is followed, it should be continued until the real cold weather has passed, as sudden and frequent changes in feeding schedules are upsetting to the birds.

Don't Overcrowd Your Chicks

A NEWLY-HATCHED chick isn't very large—about 1½ ounces—and it doesn't take up much room. However, it is well to remember that chicks grow very rapidly during the first 6-8 weeks, and in that time their weight will increase by at least seven or eight times. With early-hatched chicks, it may be necessary to confine them for most of this period, and of course provision must be made for sufficient space when they are first placed in the brooder house.

Allow at least one-half square foot per chick; thus 300 chicks can be housed comfortably in a house 12 feet square until the weather is sufficiently warm to let them outside for part of the day. Just as important as floor space is ample room under the canopy. Provide 7-11 square inches per bird, depending on the breed. Thus a circular canopy five feet in diameter will nicely accommodate 300 chicks. An easy method to determine the capacity of similar, though different sized, canopies is to add or subtract 50 chicks for each increase of six inches in diameter. For example, a canopy 4½ feet in diameter is about right for 250 chicks.

Towards the end of the brooding period, the birds may be a little crowded under the hover. This congestion may be relieved somewhat by installing low roosts. They serve two purposes in that the faster feathering birds requiring less heat will use the perches at night, and it teaches the birds how to roost at an early age. Whether these roosts slant up from the floor or are parallel and 10-12 inches above the floor is immaterial.



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N.H. Pull.	13.00 25.00	12.00 23.00
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28.50	14.75	7.60	W.L. Pul.	—31.00	16.00	8.25
3.00	2.00	1.00	W.L. Ckls.	—4.00	2.50	1.50
15.25	8.10	4.30	B. Rocks	—16.75	8.85	4.70
25.00	13.00	6.75	B.R. Pul.	—28.00	14.50	7.50
11.00	6.00	3.00	B.R. Ckls.	—12.00	6.50	3.25
15.25	8.10	4.30	N. Hmps.	—16.75	8.85	4.70
25.00	13.00	6.75	N.H. Pul.	—28.00	14.50	7.50
11.00	6.00	3.00	N.H. Ckls.	—12.00	6.50	3.25

F.O.B. Calgary, Edmonton

14.00	7.50	3.75	W. Leg.	—16.00	8.50	4.25
29.00	15.00	7.50	W.L. Pul.	—31.00	16.00	8.00
3.00	2.00	1.00	W.L. Ckls.	—4.00	2.50	1.50
16.00	8.50	4.25	B. Rocks	—18.00	9.50	4.75
27.00	14.00	7.00	B.R. Pul.	—29.00	15.00	7.50
11.00	6.00	3.00	B.R. Ckls.	—12.00	6.50	3.25
16.00	8.50	4.25	N. Hmps.	—18.00	9.50	4.75
27.00	14.00	7.00	N.H. Pul.	—29.00	15.00	7.50
10.00	5.50	2.75	N.H. Ckls.	—11.00	6.00	3.00

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15.00	8.00	4.00	N. Hamps.	—17.00	9.00	4.50
28.00	14.50	7.25	N.H. Pul.	—31.00	16.00	8.00
9.00	5.00	2.75	N.H. Ckls.	—11.00	6.00	3.00
14.00	7.50	3.75	W. Leg.	—16.00	8.50	4.25
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SQUARE ALL ROUND

Continued from page 8

of those times. In the great cat's eyes, burning like live coals in the darkness, fear and murder were struggling for mastery, and murder had all but won. Still Luke lost track of none of his woods' training in those grim moments. He kept his eyes but partially open, that the beast might not catch their gleam in the shadows; his whole body remained still in a semblance of sleep. No failure anywhere in his co-ordination; every nerve and muscle was adjusted to the emergency. So long as he feigned sleep the cat would not spring, he felt. The creature was a murderer, pure and simple, yet it was its very ingrained cruelty that kept it from pouncing until its victim should move or attempt escape.

SLOWLY the minutes dragged by with no change in the grimly silent situation; no slightest shifting in the basilisk fixity of the puma's concentration. Old Luke's limbs grew cramped and numb with tension. Had the light been stronger it would have been noticeable how his breathing slowed down at intervals, began rapidly and spasmodically again, then weakened anew, while the sweat broke out about the set mouth and eyes. He had located the exact position of his rifle leaning against the wall, but he knew that a single move to reach it would precipitate a lightning attack.

Suddenly something smote upon his overstretched nerves—an abrupt sound, slight, but magnified like the report of a rifle by the cavelike silence of the forest. He saw a tremor pass over the lithe form above him and for a bated moment held his breath. The slightest thing, he knew, might draw a hurtling attack now. Then the air left his lungs in a silent gasp of relief. He had located the sound. So had the puma. He saw the flat head shift slightly in attention.

Quills, the porcupine, having devoured the feast so mysteriously laid out for him at the edge of the clearing to the last salty, greasy sliver, had returned to the cabin in search of more. Beneath the stove and the fresh-cut planks Luke had laid in place of the old, he was sniffing and rummaging. A whole minute passed, pregnant with listening. Short grunts and faint rodentlike chattering attested to the ill success of the porcupine's search.

Luke had run out of nails before his trip to the settlement, and the new planks in front of the stove were loose. Presently one of them stirred and lifted, and the porcupine thrust his enquiring head and shoulders into the room. Never an intrusion more blundering or self-advised; never one more fatefully opportune.

Luke saw the puma quiver and stiffen throughout in tension; its tail lashed softly. Catlike the creature's whole purpose was diffused for the moment in its concentration upon movement, its shallow, emotional brain being capable of but one focalization at a time. Its head

strained forward and downward, but on the opposite side of the beam.

Soundlessly and so slowly that it was hardly perceptible, old Luke had raised himself on one elbow and was lifting the blankets free of his limbs, eyes riveted meanwhile on the beast above him. He was playing upon the element of surprise.

A single padded lunge and the man had snatched up his gun and flung himself into the corner of the cabin with the weapon at point. He had one glimpse as he whirled of the puma teetering upon the high beam, ember-eyed and terrible, swearing horrible things beneath its whiskers in rage and frustration.

Had the man been still on the bunk his death would have been instantaneous. As it was, the killer could not quite gather his scattered brains in time. The heavy smashing of Luke's rifle filled and shattered the instant of pause between with a roar of sound, the impact of the bullet pitching the big cat off his perch. Immediately thereafter the breathless silence of the night and the forest fell once more upon the clearing.

Old Luke continued to stand there, trembling with a cold that was more than the frost. His eye was drawn to the squat form of the porcupine huddled close to the stove, faintly limned in a patch of milky moonlight.

Quills, being nearsighted and in no way given to nerves, had fancied himself alone when he entered the cabin. At the abrupt commotion, punctuated by the deafening roar of the rifle, he had quickly doubled up in self-defense, erecting every spine on his body until he looked like an enormous pincushion. He had the appearance of having actually paled with rage, for the raising of his quills had brought the lighter fur beneath them into view.

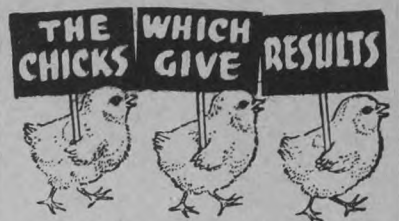
Through Luke Thompson's mind a host of grim finalities was surging. Had he shot the quill-pig a week before, as most men would have done, he knew what the night's inevitable outcome would have been. Unwittingly, by his tolerance, he had invoked protection from the equivocal gods of wilderness affairs, who had for a space been objectified in this meddlesome little beast. Nature's laws, he saw, though harsh and cruel at times, were infinitely just and far-reaching in the balancing of scores. By a little act of tolerance he had been saved a fearful end.

In the weeks that followed before he went into seclusion for the winter, a mild astonishment permeated even the stolid brain of Quills the porcupine at the altogether unbelievable results of his foraging round and about the new cabin on the Upsalquitch. Where formerly he had been edified over scraps of refuse, he now came upon generous strips of salt pork or bacon lying upon the ground in the most unexpected places.

Doubtless to the porcupine's dim reasoning, all this tallied with those other idiocies to which the two-legged creature who dwelt in the cabin seemed prone—such as wasting good bacon grease upon planks of wood and shattering the peace and quiet of midnight by shooting off guns and other unseemly commotions.



Trees and shrubs in winter dress. Painted by King Winter, Regina, January 17, 1945.



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Price List.						
Farmers' Appr.			Farmers' Spec.			
100	50	25		100	50	25
14.25	7.60	4.05	W. Leg.	—15.75	8.35	4.45
28.50	14.75	7.60	W.L. Pul.	—31.00	16.00	8.25
3.00	2.00	1.00	W.L. Ckls.	—4.00	2.50	1.50
15.25	8.10	4.30	B. Rocks	—16.75	8.85	4.70
25.00	13.00	6.75	B.R. Pul.	—28.00	14.50	7.50
11.00	6.00	3.00	B.R. Ckls.	—12.00	6.50	3.25
15.25	8.10	4.30	N. Hmps.	—16.75	8.85	4.70
25.00	13.00	6.75	N.H. Pul.	—28.00	14.50	7.50
11.00	6.00	3.00	N.H. Ckls.	—12.00	6.50	3.25
Guaranteed 100%			Live Arrival.			Pullets 96% acc.

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Western Farms Need Horticulture

IT sometimes seems to me that farms in western Canada need fruit and vegetable gardens, lawns, flowers and all that goes with them, fully as much as they need new and better varieties of grain, improved methods of controlling insects and diseases, stock watering dams and pure-bred livestock. The need, of course, in each case arises from different sources. We need all of these things that help to produce efficiency in farm production, but equally, I believe, we need those things which help to increase efficiency in farm living.

One of the most striking comments I have heard from any farmer or his wife anywhere on the prairie provinces, was made by a Saskatchewan farm woman, who when I commented on the attractiveness and beauty of their farm home and its surroundings, said, "Yes, we enjoy it, and the children enjoy it, too. They seem to prefer to have their friends come and visit them here, rather than to go to their friends' homes. It is pleasanter here."

The best of life is not in growing crops and producing good livestock and making money, but in living comfortably and well in pleasant surroundings, and with the knowledge that we have done our best both to produce well and to live well.

Prairie Canada owes a great deal to the comparatively few pioneers who have realized this inner need of agriculture for beautiful and precious things, and who have pioneered for many years in bringing to prairie farms the bright beauty of blossoms in the springtime; the rich, sun-kissed beauty of ripening fruit in late summer and autumn; the green luxury of the vegetable garden; and the satisfying store of home-grown food. Last spring I was shown the cellar in a home where I believe life is a continuous round of rich and interesting experience. Among other things I noticed the fruit cellar shelves massed heavily with rows of canned vegetables and fruits, guarantors of delight and healthful living.

Notwithstanding that the introduction of fruit culture, the development of shelterbelts and flowers and ornamentals that will succeed under our conditions, is a long process involving much disappointment, tempered with some success, the progress that has been made in 25 years is notable, and The Country Guide is proud to believe that it has played some part in this development. A note on this page recently indicated that apricots have now been matured in Alberta 429 miles north of the International Boundary. Last fall at Morden, Mr. Leslie told me that in 1942 there were 78 varieties of grapes matured at that station. A few weeks after I was at Morden, Brother Laflamme, who is in charge of horticulture at the Maison St. Joseph, Otterburne, Manitoba, brought me in a basket of Lutie grapes, which variety, followed by Minnesota No. 194, Beta and Hungarian, are considered to be the best four varieties he is growing. During the first week of August this year I saw oak, cedar and either butternut or walnut trees growing along with yellow and black raspberries on the farm of Watson Brothers, Colinton, Alberta. True, they were in a sheltered position with enviable air drainage, but they were nevertheless, growing nearly 100 miles north of Edmonton.

Not by Bread Alone

Our departments of agriculture in the prairie provinces would do well to give more definite encouragement than they have done, to the extension of home horticulture. The war has of course, made it difficult to secure and retain well-trained men to assist in beautifying farm surroundings, recommend hardy and trial-worthy varieties of fruit, as well as selected lists of tested vegetable varieties. Man however, does not live by bread alone; and in this age of power machinery, large-scale production and preoccupation with material progress, we must not lose sight of the necessity for a balanced life. Farm organizations, too, could well take a broader view of their functions and lay greater stress on those aspects of farm living which can be at least partially remedied within the confines of the farm itself.—H.S.F.



Top: Tulipa.
Left: Chrysanthemum.
Centre: Viola.
Right: Fritillaria.
Bottom: Primula.

HORTICULTURE

A Few Hardy Flowers

TULIPA TARDA is one of the wild tulips of central Asia that is quite at home in Manitoba. It is one of the early flowers of spring, coming into bloom about mid-May. The flowers are white with a deep yellow centre; they are fully two inches across and a number of flowers are produced from each bulb. It multiplies readily both from bulbs and from seeds.

CHRYSANthemUMS that can be expected to stand up to our September frosts and continue to bloom are certainly rare at this present time.

Those pictured are hybrids of an Austrian species called *C. Zawadyski*, and were photographed in the last week of October, 1944. This Austrian chrysanthemum, though of little ornamental value in itself, is likely to figure largely in the making of hardy chrysanthemums for the prairies.

THE DUSTY MILLER of British gardens (*Primula auricula*) is hardy in

western Canada when given suitable soil and moisture conditions. The auriculas like a calcareous soil, and care must be taken to see the plants do not suffer from lack of moisture during the heat of summer.

FRITILLARIA MELIAGRIS, the Guinea hen flower of English meadows, can also be grown out of doors in Canada, and is also one of the early spring flowers, coming into bloom in late May. The commonest form is the checkered plum-purple type, but there is also a very beautiful white form.

VIOLA ALTAICA is a perennial pansy from the Altai Mountains of Siberia. The flowers vary in color from pale to deep yellow with an occasional blue one. An established plant is a mat of leaves about two inches high, covered with flowers on 4 to 6-inch stems during May and with a lesser show of flowers later on in summer.—F. L. Skinner, Dropmore, Man.

Twenty Years' Orchard Experience

I FIRST started with sand cherries and plums as a hobby, and was delighted to see them fruit so heavily year after year. I started grafting plums on sand cherries and I had very good results.

I then started planting Canadian apple seedlings, but they were a complete failure. I was rather disappointed, but when I visited Ukraine, Europe, in 1927, and as the winters there are similar to ours in Alberta, this gave me the idea that since apples grew there bountifully and the apples trees do not freeze during the winter, they should be able to withstand winter-killing here also. Their winters are shorter, and summers far longer than ours here, but I still had hopes that they should be able to do quite well here.

I brought apple seeds from Ukraine, and planted 150 seeds in our garden. They all came up nicely but then each winter a few would freeze until they were quite large, and would still be damaged by our severe winter. I was terribly disappointed when I lost so many, so I wrote to the experimental farm at Ottawa, asking them what they thought about my experiment. They replied that out of 150 seedlings I would be very lucky if I had 25 that would come through. This gave me a jolt, as I had not expected to lose that many.

Year by year they were winter-killed, until only 15 were left that were not harmed. There were ten more with tops slightly damaged by frost, but in time

they started to grow again, so then I had 25 apple trees that grew and did well in our climate. In 1934 two apple trees bore fruit for the first time. No. 1 apple tree bears red, sweet apples. No. 2 has nice, white, sweet apples, and they are two inches in diameter. In 1935 another three apple trees bore fruit. No. 3 was a purple color, 2 1/4 inches in diameter and sweet. No. 4 was a late variety. No. 5 is an early variety, color white, good, tart flavor, 2 1/2 inches in diameter, a very heavy producer year after year and very hardy. We have severe winters and cold spring weather at the time it blossoms, but it never has harmed the blossoms.

As other apple trees started to bear fruit, I commenced grafting them from one kind on to another. The following are the descriptions and the different varieties of the other apples: No. 6, red tart apples, 2 1/4 inches in diameter; No. 7, purple, sweet; No. 8, hardy, early, sweet, 2 1/2 inches diameter; No. 9, late, green, sweet, 2 3/4 inches; No. 10, yellow, late, acid; No. 14, early, sweet, much like Delicious, 3 1/2 inches, grows very upright; No. 15, white with red stripes, sweet, good keepers; No. 17, early, sweet, purple color, 2 inches; No. 22, late, tart apples, 3 inches in diameter.

I have different varieties of crab apples, which are Canadian, such as Sylvia, Dolga, Osman, and they are all good, heavy producers.

The plums and plum-sand cherry hybrids are very heavy producers year by

year and include Assiniboine, Waneta, Pembina, McRobert, Cheney, Champa, Opata and Tom Thumb.

I have a three-acre orchard, and about 200 trees bearing fruit. They give me great satisfaction as a hobby, also a tidy income. I would be glad to see everybody have at least a few fruit trees in their gardens. — Wm. P. Fedun, Lamont, Alta.

Prairie Farms Need Trees

SINCE prairie farm tree planting was first sponsored by the government of Canada early in this century, the plan and recommendation to push tree planting to the limit when conditions are favorable have been completely vindicated.

Ample proof has been obtained to show that trees planted under favorable conditions will survive and grow reasonably well in seasons of drought and excessive heat, provided a reasonable amount of care and attention by way of marginal cultivation, insect control and protection from livestock, are given to them each year after being planted.

The main advantages derived from adequate farm shelterbelts are:

Comfort enjoyed, summer and winter, by farm residents; improvement in appearance and value of farm; reduction in wind velocity, snow blowing and soil drifting; protection of crops and livestock; increase in song, game and insectivorous birds.

Many farmers no doubt have been asking themselves the question: Would I not be wise to make plans to replace my old tree belt; many of the trees in it have died, grass and weeds have become established in it and interfere with the growth of the trees, and I would obtain from the trees still living, useful fuel and wood?

Some may also have observed that when the leaves fall from the maple, ash and other broadleaf trees in the shelterbelt after frost, the shelter provided by the belt is greatly reduced. This situation can be improved by planting within the shelter of the main belt, evergreen spruce and pine? If land has not been prepared, do so this year so that the evergreens may be set 12 or 16 feet from the inside row of the broadleaf belt.

Moreover, you may be concerned about the trees dying in the native groves or bluffs. Why not add new life and vigor to these by underplanting the native trees with long-lived ash and elm where there is sufficient space for them.

So make plans now to get trees for one or other of these purposes, or to prepare land this year as required so that planting may be proceeded with next year. Send enquiries about trees to The Forest Nursery Station, Indian Head, and an application form and other literature pertaining to tree planting will be sent. Fill out the application form and return it to us with a sketch showing the size of the area where trees are to be planted, and its position with relation to buildings, roads, and other permanent features. We then prepare a planting plan and determine the kind and number of trees needed to provide a suitable shelterbelt.

If you are not sure where land should be prepared for trees, send a sketch of the layout of the farmstead, and we will be pleased to suggest where a shelterbelt might be of most service, having in mind not only the protection of buildings, but sufficient space within the sheltered area for lawn, ornamental plantings of flowers and shrubs, vegetable garden and fruit plantation. It is a serious mistake to set out a shelterbelt without giving ample consideration to the horticultural phase of agriculture, sufficient space for continuous marginal cultivation, and a definite place for evergreens within the shelter of the main broadleaf belt.—John Walker, Fort Nursery Station, Indian Head, Sask.

Q. (B. M., Tabor, Alta.): How deeply will I plant onion bulbs to grow seed? Is there benefit in using large bulbs?

A. Set the bulb about three inches deep. A 3-inch bulb may be expected to produce about double the weight of seed that grows from a 1 to 1 1/2-inch bulb.

AFTER HOURS OF FIRING



THESE
MUSCLES
ARE BOUND
TO ACHE

FOR

**QUICK
RELIEF**

JUST PAT ON
**SLOAN'S
LINIMENT**

Quick relief from the agony of sore, tired muscles is yours with Sloan's Liniment. Just pat it on (no need to rub it in) and feel its penetrating warmth bring quick, welcome relief. Circulation is speeded up and fatigue poisons are carried off faster. Keep a bottle of Sloan's always on hand for family emergencies.

Sloan's offers speedy relief for strains, bruises, bumps, minor sprains, neuralgia, muscular pains, frost bite and chest colds.

**SLOAN'S
LINIMENT**

MORE EGGS IN 15 DAYS

or your money back
Pratts Poultry Regulator sharpens appetite, tones up digestion, contains "Trace Elements", nature's own health foods, often lacking in grains. 13



Pratts POULTRY
REGULATOR

SEED FROM THE PEACE

Continued from page 7

are entirely inadequate, and this has been one of the factors preventing the expansion of growth northward. Cleaning facilities are ample for all but the most exacting work, but storage is a serious problem and at the present time, seeds, both before and after cleaning, must be stored at some distance from the warehouse and trucked to and from it, which is costly. Present and future development would seem to justify a larger and better equipped warehouse supplied with machinery to handle two or three kinds of seed simultaneously, and preferably located farther east in the area along the north and south line running to Edmonton, where seeds from all parts of the Peace River could be cleaned and stored in transit without backhauls.

Members and officers have recognized this need for some time past, but, beginning about two years ago, there arose a suggestion of amalgamation with the Alberta Co-operative Seed Growers Association, and much discussion has taken place as to the wisdom or otherwise of such a step. While this possibility was in prospect, action by the Peace River Association was withheld on warehouse and storage space, since any appreciable expenditure would only be required by the local association in the event that amalgamation did not take place. At the annual meeting in July, amalgamation appeared to be just around the corner, but events since that time appear to have rendered amalgamation impracticable. The result is that the local association will probably find it necessary to go ahead with its own expansion program in the very near future.

Expansion is a Logical Step

The fact that the Association has not so far been able to serve the area north of the Peace River efficiently, because of difficulties inherent in the problem of cleaning and hauling seed, would indicate that cautious expansion is called for soon. This seems to be particularly true because the entire area, from High Prairie to Fort St. John in the Peace River block, seems adapted to organization as one regional seed centre. If a solution to the problem of seed setting of the alfalfa crop were in sight, there is ample room for very considerable expansion in this direction alone; and, in fact, the northern fringe of the three prairie provinces might well become the number one source of high-quality alfalfa seed for the entire continent.

One rather serious difficulty is inherent in the location and comparative newness of the Peace River country, that is, lack of telephone communication with the outside and the distance from outside seed markets. Originally interested in the production and distribution of first-class seed grain, the Association brought in the first pedigreed seed from Dr. Seager Wheeler, and sponsored seed fairs as well as encouraged competition at the larger seed fairs such as Toronto, Chicago and Regina. Preserving the good name of Peace River seed became an important matter, and it was then that the Association engaged the services of a full-time manager. Formerly a flour mill, the present warehouse was secured in 1940 and for the purpose of cleaning brome grass seed and some seed oats, one or two machines were installed. Today, in addition to cereals, the Association offers brome, alfalfa, alsike, altaswede, timothy, sweet clover, creeping red fescue, peas, and other seeds.

President of the company is P. U. Clubine, Grande Prairie, one of the early directors and for a time manager of the Association until he retired for reasons of health. Vice-president is A. R. Burgess, of Beaverlodge, and the five directors are V. C. Smith, Beaverlodge; Uri Powel, Sexsmith; W. E. Grearson, Buffalo Lake; Thomas Jamieson, Pouce Coupe; and K. Anderson of Grande Prairie. The present manager, R. S. Macmillan, has served the organization now for about two years. He was formerly at the Dominion experimental sta-

RE

Vicks Scientists Perfect Home-Plan For You To Use This Winter!

Results in Clinically Supervised Tests
Among 2650 Children Delight Mothers



FROM their vast experience, Vicks Health Advisers and Scientists developed a simple home-guide—called Vicks Plan—that has proved its real worth in tests made among 2650 children under clinical supervision. Reports show that it resulted in fewer colds . . . shorter

colds . . . 50% less sickness from colds!

Now this tested Vicks Plan is ready for you to use in dealing with colds.

Of course, Vicks Plan may do less for you and your family—or it may do even more! At a time like this it is certainly worth trying in your own home.

JUST 3 SIMPLE STEPS



1. Observe a Few Simple Health Rules . . . Live normally. Avoid excesses. Drink plenty of water. Keep elimination regular. Get needed rest and sleep. Avoid crowds, people who have colds.



2. When a Cold Threatens . . . At the first warning sign—first snuffle or sneeze—use Vicks Va-tro-nol as directed. If used in time, a few drops of this specialized medication up each nostril aid nature's own defenses against colds—help prevent many colds from developing . . . clinic-tested VICKS VA-TRO-NOL.



3. If a Cold Should Develop . . . Some colds slip by all precautions. When one does, rub on Vicks VapoRub at bedtime. Its grand double-action starts to work at once and keeps on working for hours—invites restful sleep. And often by morning most of the misery of the cold is gone . . . clinic-tested VICKS VAPORUB.

**PUT VICKS PLAN
TO WORK IN YOUR HOME TODAY**

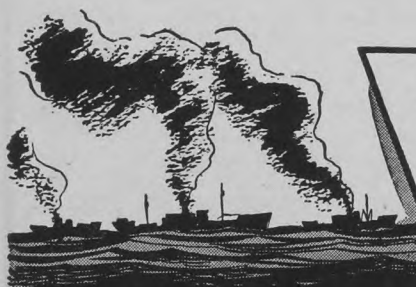
NOTE: Full details of Vicks Plan in your package of Vicks . . . If the miserable symptoms of a cold are not relieved promptly—or if more serious trouble seems to threaten—call in your family doctor right away.

MATCHES HAVE CAUSED SERIOUS FIRES IN OVERSEAS MAIL ...



NEVER PACK ANY INFLAMMABLE MATERIALS IN PARCELS

MATCHES AND LIGHTER FLUID in overseas parcels have started serious fires. Think what this means. Thousands of bags containing letters and parcels lie deep down in a ship's hold, lurching in a rough sea. If matches or lighter fluid take fire—AND THEY DO—that means that brave seamen must go into the smoke-filled hold and risk their lives. Thousands of parcels may be destroyed, and thousands of men disappointed.



WON'T YOU HELP? We know that you would not knowingly endanger lives and mail. So think—and then don't put matches or lighter fluid in Overseas Mail.

CANADA POST OFFICE

Issued by the authority of
HON. W. P. MULOCK, K.C., M.P., POSTMASTER GENERAL

RESEARCH BOOSTS BACON QUALITY

Continued from page 7

curing salts. Nitrate or saltpetre added to the pickle is changed by bacterial action to nitrite, the principal color fixing agent. Insufficient nitrite produces an inferior color in the bacon. On the other hand, the conversion of nitrate to nitrite continues after the meat is removed from pickle, with detrimental effects on surface color, if the nitrite becomes excessive.

When some of the factors responsible for specific complaints were understood and these conditions improved, a scientific comparison between Canadian and Danish bacon was desirable. Such a comparison could only be made in England where the British preference could be accurately assessed and where Danish bacon could be compared under actual market conditions.

In 1939 a representative of the National Research Council visited England and organized elaborate flavor tests, using people recruited from scientific institutions, the bacon trade, catering firms, hotels and a large number of representative consumers. Thousands of comparisons were made in these blind-fold tasting tests and the results consistently revealed that the product from certain Canadian factories was comparable with the best Danish bacon. In other words, the better curing practices and handling methods already used by some Canadian firms permitted delivery of a satisfactory product to the British consumer.

Milder Cures Necessary

An improvement in the average quality of Canadian bacon was therefore essential and the adoption of standard processing procedures appeared to be the first step in remedying the situation. From the comments received during the flavor testing, it was evident that most Canadian bacon was too salty for the British palate. This difficulty could be overcome by the use of milder cures, that is, by reducing the salt content of the brine or altering other factors that might contribute to the salty flavor.

World War II had been declared before this series of investigations was completed. The adoption of the convoy system doubled, or trebled, the time for ocean transport and the British distribution system was frequently disrupted. To prevent bacon reaching the consumer in poor condition, the British Ministry of Food requested a return to the very hard cures used in World War I. Such practices had afterwards worked to the detriment of Canadian trade and, moreover, the recent consumer tests had shown that the British preference was definitely in favor of milder rather than harder cures. As an alternative, standardization of curing procedures was recommended and adopted. In order to meet wartime conditions the cure agreed on was saltier than some of the best peace-time cures. Nevertheless, this standardization resulted in improved uniformity of the product and better general quality on delivery. Now, after four years of bacon exporting under the most difficult wartime conditions, the British prefer Canadian bacon to their home product and further state that the quality standards of 1939 have been very well maintained.

Early in 1941 shipping losses had reached the point where considera-



SO THE RECIPE CALLS FOR SOUR MILK?

Make it in a minute

Never pass up delicious recipes for hot biscuits, gingerbread, chocolate cake because you haven't any sour milk or buttermilk. Make some.

Do this . . .

Place 1 tablespoon of vinegar or lemon juice in a standard measuring cup. Fill to the 1 cup mark with sweet milk. Proportionate amounts for less. The resulting liquid is equal to natural sour milk or buttermilk when it is best for baking.

And for these recipes you'll need Cow Brand Baking Soda — the perfect leavener for texture and flavour.

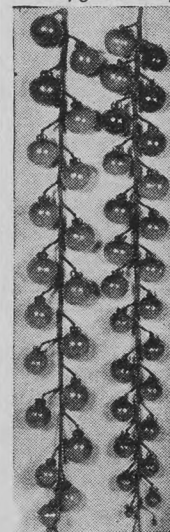
COW BRAND BAKING SODA



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SUGAR TOMATO

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65W

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Do you feel older than you are or suffer from Getting Up Nights, Backache, Nervousness, Leg Pains, Rheumatic Pains, Burning, scanty or frequent passages? If so, remember that your Kidneys are vital to your health and that these symptoms may be due to Kidney and Bladder troubles—in such cases Cystex usually gives prompt and joyous relief by helping the Kidneys clean out poisonous excess acids and wastes. You have everything to gain and nothing to lose in trying Cystex. The iron clad money-back agreement assures a refund of your money on return of empty package unless fully satisfied. Don't delay. Get Cystex (Sliss-tex) from your druggist today.

Cystex

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PORKY: "There's that kid again—always up to sumpin'."

Magic Electric Welder—110 volt AC-DC, welds, brazes, solders, cuts all metals; easy to use; full directions. Complete with power unit, flame and metallic arc attachments, carbons, fluxes, rods, mask. Only \$19.95. Used by the Navy. Splendid for farm use. Magic Welder Mfg. Co., 241CG Canal St., New York City.

tion was given to the shipping of Canadian bacon under unrefrigerated transport. During World War I the same problem had arisen and was met by giving the already hard-cured bacon additional preservative treatments with dry salt and borax. It was felt that everything possible should be done to prevent the recurrence of this disastrous practice.

Refrigeration Unit Designed

Indeed, this contingency had been foreseen, and many methods of preserving meat had been exhaustively examined, including the use of chemical preservatives, none of which were found suitable. Refrigeration appeared to be the only method of preservation adequate for the job. Thus, when advice was sought, the National Research Council was in a position to suggest that an emergency refrigerating unit be designed suitable for converting an ordinary cargo hold to a refrigerated shipping space. The design of this equipment was such that a complete refrigeration unit weighing less than three tons could be slung into position on the ship's deck and the system completely installed in a few hours' time without delaying the vessel in port. Several ships were equipped with this type of refrigeration and have delivered millions of pounds of bacon across the Atlantic in satisfactory condition. Delivery of the newly developed standard product was therefore continued without resort to unsatisfactory preservative treatments.

In World War II, Denmark and other bacon producing countries were overrun and Canada was faced with the enormous problem of supplying most of the United Kingdom's bacon requirements. Efforts in this direction have met with considerable success, probably over three-quarters of the British bacon ration now being Canadian. The expansion of the bacon industry in the prairie provinces has been largely responsible for making this possible. When the war is ended and the competitive producers again enter the British market, will Canada be able to retain a fair share of the trade?

This time Canada is not faced with the prospect of overcoming prejudice built up against a low quality war product—our war product is good. Moreover, scientific investigation has provided a backlog of information for postwar application. But retention of any large share of the market will depend upon one thing only—continued production of high quality bacon.

If Canada is to keep a fair share of the British bacon market, she must produce and deliver a product preferably better than, but at least the equal to, the best procurable from other countries. To do this, she must make full use of her research facilities and continuously seek to improve the product. Finally, it is only by co-operative effort on the part of the producers, packers and distributors that a uniform quality product can be maintained and the confidence of the British consumer held.

OVERNIGHT GUEST

Continued from page 11

though. The State police get all those bulletins."

"Where is he?"

"Asleep inside. He was up all night."

"Well, send him out," Tope directed. The district attorney went into the house, and after a moment Ned Quill appeared, elaborately rubbing his eyes.

Tope spoke to him. "Get any rest, did you?"

"Sure!" the trooper told him cheerfully. "A good three hours!"

Tope nodded. "Quill, have the State police had any reports of a car being stolen around here, the last few days?"

"Sure, hundreds of 'em. We get those reports by the bale. Cars are stolen all the time."

"You go find out whether any cars

have been reported stolen within fifty miles of here since Friday," Tope directed. "Or since Thursday, for that matter."

Quill assented. He started away; but Tope detained him. "Wait a minute," he said. "Something else. You know the country around here?"

"Lived here all my life—up to now. Yes, I guess I do."

"Well then," Tope asked, "suppose you had a car on your hands that you had to get rid of, somewhere around here, where would you put it?"

The trooper considered. "I'd run it into the woods," he decided. "There are a lot of old roads that nobody uses except to park in, on moonlight nights; and nobody would notice one more car among so many."

Tope shook his head. "That's not good enough! Someone might spot it the first day. Is there any place where a car could be sunk in deep water?"

"Well, there are some old limestone quarries, above Ridgcomb. I haven't been up since I was a kid; but there's always water in the quarries, and it's grey with lime, so you can't see down into it."

"Any other place that would do the trick?"

"Nary a one that I know of."

Tope nodded. "All right," he agreed. "Now you go find out whether there's been a car stolen, and let me know."

When Quill was gone, Tope turned to Adam. "Son, you know where these quarries are?"

"I can find them."

"Get Miss Dewain to drive you up there," Tope directed. "That way, you can enjoy yourself and help me too. Take a fishing line and a sinker and make some soundings—see if you can locate anything in the quarries that might be a car. Look for tire-tracks on the road."

Adam nodded; and Tope said: "Another thing, Adam. Look for car-tracks, but look for a man's tracks too. And a woman's. Any soft ground or sand around there, look it over careful and let me know what you find."

"Where are you going?"

"Mrs. Tope's going to drive me down to Ridgcomb first. Then we'll come back to the Mill. Miss Dewain, will you drive him?"

"I came up to get some fresh vegetables for dinner," Bee remembered. "Adam, come help me. Then we can go."

So she and Adam departed toward the garden, and the Inspector and Mrs. Tope got under way; at once he proposed: "Now ma'am, we'll drive down to Ledforge's summer place and see what they say there!"

She assented; but first he bade her stop at the Mill; and he went to talk with Priddy for a while. When he returned to the car, there was a deep excitement in his eyes; but he only said: "All right, let's go along." Not till they were on the road did he explain. Then he told her: "Someone else is on this trail we're running."

"Who?"

"Those two men last night, Whitlock and Beal! Whitlock told Priddy he was an insurance agent, said he was trying to trace a stolen car—a Chevalier coupé, pale grey with blue trim. Earl told him a car like that was here Friday night."

"Is that the one with the Englishman?"

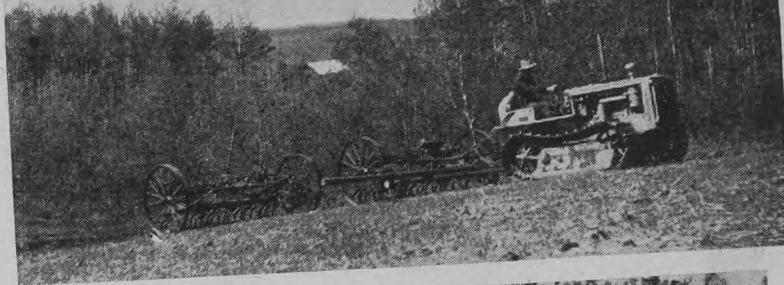
"Yes!"

"Did Earl get the number of the car?"

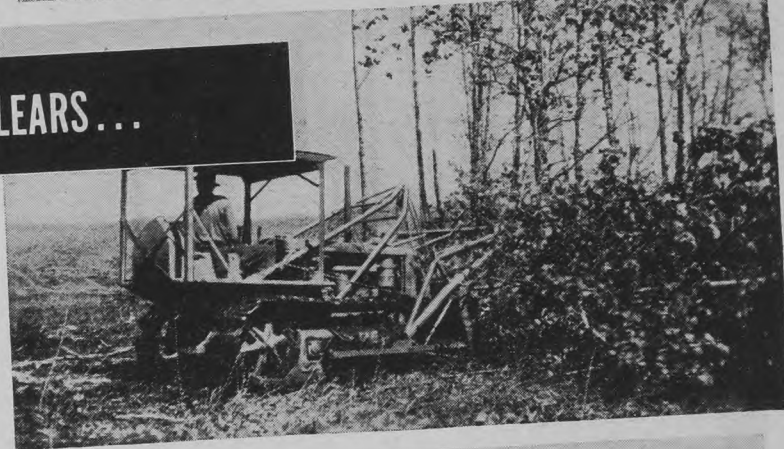
"No, but he says it was a coupé, light grey. He didn't see the man's face, or the woman's. They drove in late, and Priddy had to get out of bed. He took them to Little Bear. The man gave him the money for the cabin without getting out of the car, and Priddy went back to bed; but he says the man was small, and that he talked like an Englishman—whatever that means! And Priddy says the car had blown out an exhaust gasket. He heard it puffing." "I had to go at Priddy easy, so he wouldn't realize I was asking questions. That's what took me so long." For a while, then, he said no more.

WHEN they came to the house, Miss Ledforge, after some delay, received them on the wide flagged terrace by

DIESEL D2 FARMS...



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MOVES DIRT...



SAVES \$300 A YEAR

FOR HECTOR BURTON, BETHANY, MANITOBA

In 7 working years, Hector Burton's "Caterpillar" Diesel D2 Tractor shows 8000 hours on its hour meter. It has powered a 475-acre, rolling wheat and barley farm near Bethany, Manitoba—and also does about 400 hours of custom work per year.

According to Mr. Burton's recent report, his Diesel D2 burns only 1 1/8 imp. gallons per hour (average)—and saves \$300 per year on fuel expense alone. In addition to the regular run of farm work, he uses it to move houses, work under conditions too wet for other tractors, pull trees, move dirt, break brush, cut scrub, haul big stones and do winter work.

"With the scrub-cutter I made," states Mr. Burton, "the D2 will cut off poplar trees up to 5" in diameter—or push over and take out, root and all, trees up to 10" or 12" in diameter. From 1 to 5 acres can be cleared in a 10-hour day, depending on the bush. My D2 excels other tractors in traction, fuel economy and dependability."

The Diesel D2 is full-brother to the famous combat tractors with the front-mounted blades which military men call bulldozers. That's why it's so tough—so thrifty—so ready and able to do so much heavy-duty work and like it!

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CATERPILLAR DIESEL

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ENGINES • TRACTORS • MOTOR GRADERS
EARTHMOVING EQUIPMENT

"The problem that gave me Airgraph letter trouble—but doesn't any more"



1. Since Tom, my husband, has been overseas, I've been writing him almost every day. I always use Airgraph, because it's the safest, surest way to write. And, as I should, I keep my letters newswy and cheerful.



2. The other night it was hard to keep that Airgraph cheerful. I'd put our son, Pete, to bed, crying. We'd had a scene over the laxative he hates, and I had to force it down.

3. I had finished Tom's letter, when my cousin Jean walked in. Peter was still crying, so I told her the trouble. Her husband's a doctor, and I thought she could help.



4. "You shouldn't force bad-tasting laxatives on children!" she said. Try Castoria—it tastes good, it's gentle and effective. Made especially for children!"

5. Jean was in the next time Pete needed a laxative. I gave him Castoria—and he liked it! I was so pleased, I wrote Tom that Peter even loved his medicine!



As the medical profession knows, the chief ingredient in Castoria—senna—has an excellent reputation in medical literature.

Research has proved that senna works mostly in the lower bowel, so it rarely disturbs the appetite or digestion. In regulated doses, senna produces easy elimination and almost never gripes or irritates.

CASTORIA

The SAFE laxative made especially for children

the drive. She was an old woman, her abundant white hair soft as a halo about her bright countenance. Her eyes were gentle, yet with some shadow in them too. Her brother Mr. Ledforge, she told them, was in New York.

"Do you know when he'll be here?" Tope asked.

"He telephoned yesterday," she said. "He expects to come up Wednesday or Thursday."

Tope and Mrs. Tope carefully avoided exchanging glances; but Mrs. Tope felt the pulse pound in her throat. Then Tope asked: "Was he here last week?"

Miss Ledforge hesitated. "Not here at home," she said. "The chauffeur went to Middleford to meet a guest I was expecting and he saw Mr. Ledforge at the station; but one of Mr. Holdom's cars met him and—he didn't come home. I suppose he and Mr. Holdom..." Her voice trailed into silence.

"Holdom's car, eh?" Tope reflected. "Chauffeur driving?"

"No—Mrs. Kell. Her husband is the chauffeur. He used to work for Mr. Ledforge. I suppose Mrs. Kell took him straight to Mr. Holdom's house. They probably had some business."

Tope nodded. "I see. Well, I'll try to catch him here tomorrow or Thursday."

"Who shall I say called?"

"He wouldn't know me," Tope confessed; and he turned toward the car. Mrs. Tope, at this movement, started the engine, made it roar with a quite unnecessary violence. Tope got in beside her, and they drove away, and Tope asked thoughtfully:

"Well, what do you think now? If she talked to Mr. Ledforge yesterday, he's not dead!"

Mrs. Tope said: "She's deaf: How could she telephone?"

"Deaf?" Well, deaf people hear better over the phone, sometimes!"

"She's stone deaf!" Mrs. Tope insisted. "Didn't you notice when I started the car I made it roar. I spoke to her in an ordinary tone at the same time. You didn't hear me; but she read my lips, knew what I said in spite of the noise and answered me."

"Then you don't think she talked to him?"

Mrs. Tope said firmly: "She couldn't! Of course he might have sent a message, or someone else might have phoned in his name." And she challenged: "But if you don't believe me, get someone from here who knows what Ledforge looks like."

He shook his head. "Not yet." And he asked: "Is there anyone in New York you could get to find out quietly if Ledforge is there?"

"Yes," she said, "... several people."

They were by this time in Ridgcomb village. "Go do it," he urged. "There's a pay station over in the drugstore."

So Mrs. Tope obediently departed, leaving Tope sitting in the car. When she returned, his gaze was intently fixed on a second-floor window above the drugstore.

"What is it?" she asked curiously.

He moved with something like a start. "Oh, back, are you?" he said. "I just happened to notice there's a dentist's office up there. Dr. Loud, D.D.S. In case we have a toothache."

"I'm more apt to have a headache," she confessed ruefully. "I got Bob Tower on the phone. He thinks Ledforge is in New York; but he's going to find out for sure. I'll have to call him back."

TOPE looked at her steadily, blankly. Then he seemed to rouse. "Well, we can wait," he said. "How long?"

"I'll go try him now," she decided. "He said it wouldn't take him long."

He watched her cross the street to the drug-store again—saw her presently return toward him. Her expression was eloquent of bewilderment.

"He's in New York," she said. "Bob called Ledforge's office, and they told him Ledforge was at a meeting of directors. One of Bob's friends was there too. Bob phoned this man, called him out of the meeting, asked him if Ledforge was there. Ledforge was there."

"Or Tower's friend lied," Tope corrected.

"Why should he lie?"

Tope reminded her: "You gave me a

reason yourself! Maybe some of the insiders are unloading this stock of his before they admit that Ledforge is missing."

"It's possible," she confessed. "But Bob said his friend would tell him the truth."

Tope nodded. "All right," he decided. "Get in. Let's go back to the Mill."

She started the car, and they drove toward the edge of the town; but almost at once Ned Quill came roaring toward them and wheeled in a circle to come alongside as Mrs. Tope stopped by the curb. "I found out about the car," the trooper reported. "There was one stolen, Friday night."

"Tope said quickly: "It was a Chevalier coupé, light grey, with blue trim?"

Quill stared. You're a mind-reader!

Yes, that's it."

"Whose was it?"

"Belonged to a man named Holdom,"

Quill replied. "He lives in a big house just a mile or so up the road."

"Holdom, eh? I've heard of him. And you say somebody stole his car?"

"Last Friday night," Quill assented. "Holdom telephoned from New York, Saturday morning, reported it to the police in Ridgcomb. Said the car was in his garage and someone just drove it away."

"His garage up here? How would he know, if he was in New York? Was he here

the day before?"

"I don't know."

"Anybody in the house hear it go?"

"I don't know that either."

"I wonder if Holdom reported to the insurance people?"

"I can find out, if it was insured up here. Charley Fay handles most of the local business." And Quill asked: "Did you go up to the quarries?"

"I sent Adam," Tope replied. "I'd like to ask Holdom some questions," he added. "You know the folks down at his house?"

"Sure!" Quill grinned. "Mrs. Kell, the chauffeur's wife, is a handsome woman. I drop in on her now and then."

"We'll drop in and see her," Tope decided. "You do the talking. Tell her we're your aunt and uncle from the country, following you around to see how you work." He chuckled. "Guess I look like a farmer, with these boots and all. Mrs. Tope, think you can talk like a farmer's wife?"

"You'd better take those trout-flies out of your hat."

"That's right," he agreed, and removed these betraying bits of feathers. Mrs. Tope pushed her own hat a little higher on her head and put on her most severe expression. The effect was ludicrously convincing.

So Quill put his motorcycle into motion, and they followed, and turned presently into the drive that led down to the Holdom place; and after a moment saw the great stone house through the trees ahead.

QUILL rang the bell, and a woman answered: a middle-aged woman in a plain black dress.

"Morning, Miss Pineyard," said Ned Quill cheerfully. The woman nodded, and looked past him toward the car; and Quill explained: "This is my uncle and aunt. They wanted to watch me work, see what a policeman's job is like, see the wheels go round. Folks, this is Miss Nettie Pineyard. She keeps house for Mr. Holdom." And to the housekeeper: "I came to find out about the car."

The woman asked in apparent surprise: "What car?"

"The coupé that was stolen Friday night," Quill explained. "Mr. Holdom reported it to the police, but he didn't give any details. I just came to check up."

"Stolen?" Miss Pineyard protested.

"Why, yes, sure," said Quill; and then in elaborate surprise: "Don't tell me you hadn't heard!"

She said spitefully: "I thought Mrs. Kell took it. She often does." Open disapproval was in her tones. "It's not my affair," she added. "The house is my business, and I attend to it. What she does doesn't concern me!"

"I should say not!" Quill agreed indignantly. "But what makes you think Mrs. Kell took it?"

"I saw her—saw her drive away."

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"So?" Quill echoed. "Was Mr. Holdom here? Did he know she took it? Come back has she?"

Some thought passed through the woman's mind was half-revealed for an instant in her eyes, then hidden.

"No, she hasn't! And he wasn't—," she confessed, then hesitated, as though a prey to unadmitted doubts. "We expected him," she admitted. "Kell got here in the limousine, late Friday afternoon. He'd driven up from New York; but he drove on past the house right down to the garage. He went away again, a little while after and I supposed he'd gone to meet Mr. Holdom at the train in Middleford. He sometimes came that way."

The trooper asked: "Where is Kell?" "He's not here," she said. She hesitated. "I'd like to know what's going on around here," she confessed sharply, and her face suddenly was pale.

Mrs. Holdom here?" Quill enquired at random.

"She's in South America—has been since May."

"Well, where do you think Kell is?"

"I didn't ask. It's as much as your life's worth to speak to him when his wife's away."

"Doesn't Kell know where she . . ."

Miss Pineyard cried: "I tell you, I didn't ask him! I'm not interested in her goings-on, as long as she stays in the garage and out of my house! But if Kell doesn't take her in hand one of these days, I'll be surprised. He stands more than most husbands . . ."

She checked herself, and Mrs. Tope asked with the relish of the born gossip: "Go away and stay overnight, does she?"

"Yes, she does! Every week-end that Kell's home, and sometimes when he's not. Here a week ago . . ." She bit her lip, was silent.

"Go a week ago, did she?"

"Yes, she did."

"Her husband, was he here?"

"No. Mr. Holdom stayed in New York. There wasn't anybody here!"

"Off with some man, I'll warrant!" Mrs. Tope hazarded; but Miss Pineyard only tossed her head, and Tope spoke to Ned Quill in a nasal, perfectly avuncular tone.

"Son," he suggested, "I sh'd think you'd go look around the garage for clues and things. Ain't that the way you policeman have to do?"

Quill said importantly: "Why, certainly. I was just going to." He appealed to Nettie Pineyard. "Mind if I do that? I don't know as there's any need, but if Mr. Holdom says the car was stolen, and you say Mrs. Kell took it, why there's something funny . . ."

"Go on and look," she assented. "There's something funny around here, since you came, anyhow."

Quill grinned, and they moved down the drive and came to the garage. The doors stood open; two cars and a truck inside, and two empty stalls. A police-dog chained in one corner leaped to his feet to bark at them riotously, though his tail was wagging.

TOPE alighted and approached the animal with extended hand. He permitted his fingers to be smelled. The barking stopped, and Tope scratched the dog under the chin.

Then a gaunt man came from somewhere, rake in hand.

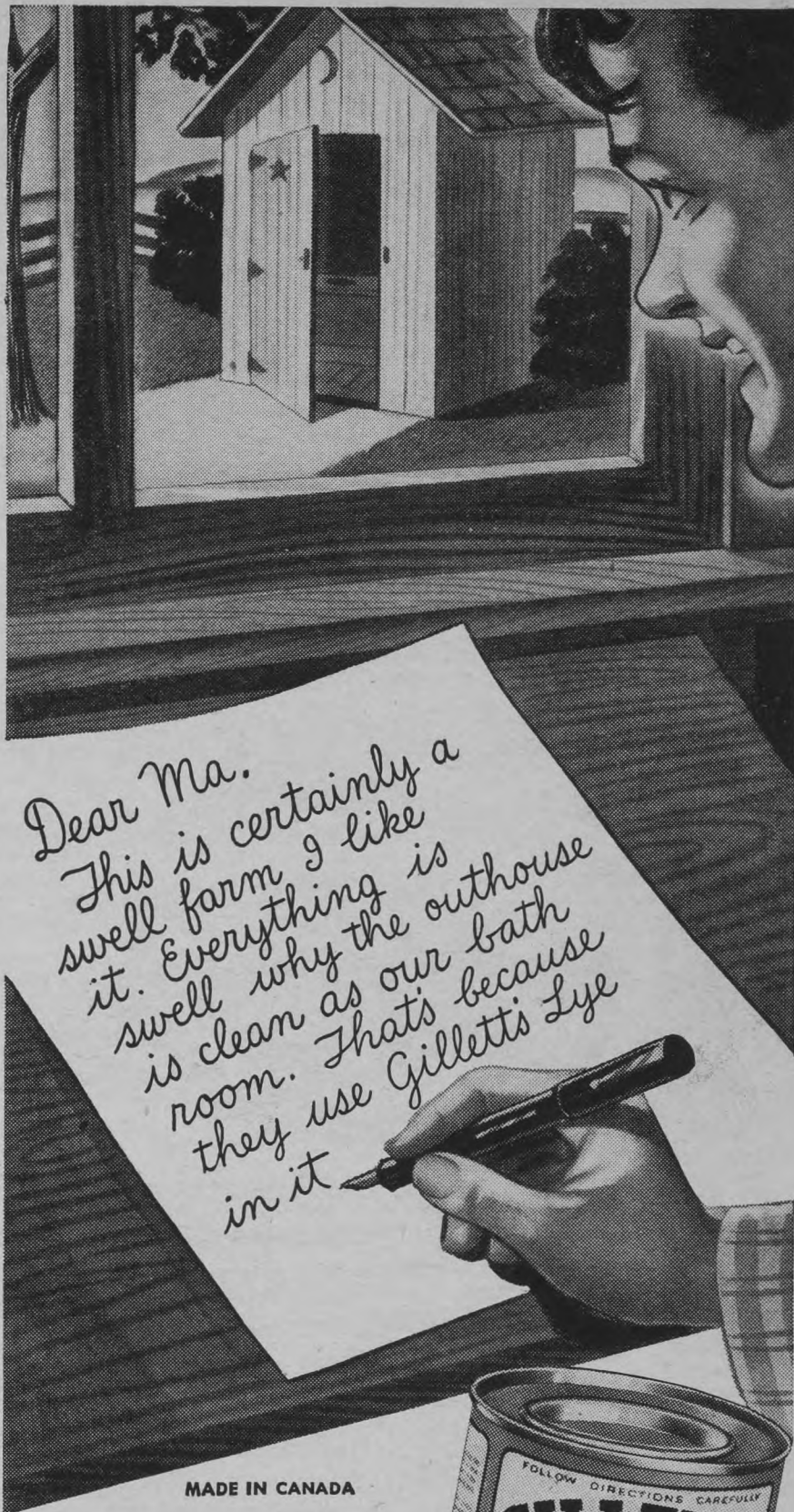
"Oh, hullo," he said to the trooper. "What you after? I hear the dog bark—sounded like he was eating somebody up. Who these folks with you?"

"Meet my uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Tope," Quill explained. "They're watching me operate. I came down to find out about the coupé being stolen." He introduced this gardener. "This is Jim Tennant," he said. "He works for Holdom right along."

"Stole?" Tennant echoed. "I see it was gone, but I 'lowed Mis' Kell had took it. She gen'rally does."

"Well! Mis' Kell seems to do a heap of driving around," Mrs. Tope suggested tartly. "Sounds to me as if she was a hussy!"

"Sho!" Jim Tennant protested. "She's all right! Nellie Pineyard has been mad at her ever since she caught Mr. Holdom talking to her down here one day couple weeks ago. Nettie kind of acts as if Holdom's her private prop'ty. But I like Mis' Kell. She done me a good turn once, saved me a doctor's bill. I stuck a pitchfork into my foot, pretty near



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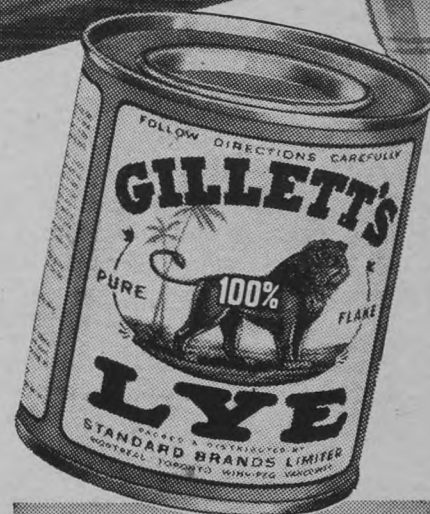
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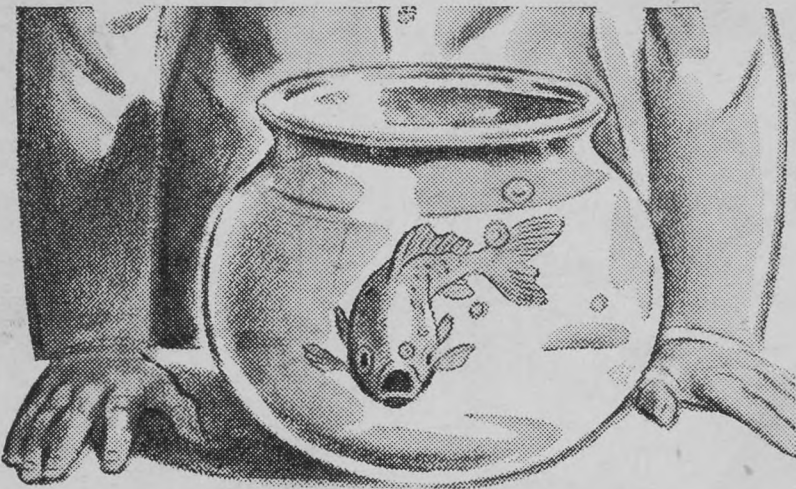


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clear through, and she fixed it up for me. Done a good job. She used to be a trained nurse." He added with a relish: "But aside from that, she's a fine handsome woman." He chuckled. "Friendly, too."

Tope was still caressing the dog. "Lay down, old man," he commanded. "With that new blanket of yours, I sh'd think you'd want to lay on it."

The gardener said, as though a little embarrassed: "Well, he did have an old one, but it's gone somewheres. I took that one out of the town car for him. The pore dog can't lay on the bare floor."

Mrs. Tope asked: "The Kells live in the house?"

"No'm, right upstairs here," said Jim Tennant. "Come along, and I'll show you. It's fixed up real nice!"

Tennant led the way, and they followed him up the stairs beside the garage to a pleasant apartment of two comfortable bedrooms and living-room and kitchenette.

One of the beds, Mrs. Tope noticed, had been mused; someone had lain there, though the covers were not disturbed. Tope opened a closet door, and Mrs. Tope over her shoulder saw suits on hangers there, and a chauffeur's uniform; she saw Tope become intent on something, and managed to keep the gardener's attention elsewhere for a few moments.

They returned downstairs again; and the gardener showed them the machine-shop, the storage-tanks for oil and gas, the heater in the basement. "Got a reg'lar factory here," he boasted. "Do anything needs doing to the cars, or the airplaness either, right on the place!"

"Got airplaness too, has he?" Tope asked.

"Ain't got so many as he had," the gardener declared. "One of 'em got busted up, here Sat'day."

"Anybody hurt?"

"Bob Flint, the fellow that flew her. He was due to git his come-uppance finally. Been chasing around after my gal, Sally. Kind of a relief to me he's dead. Sal took on scandalous. Bent and determined she'd go clean to New York to his funeral."

Tope nodded, and he turned to the trooper. "Well, Ned, looks to me you're wasting a heap of time on a car that wa'n't even stole at all!"

"I thought I was giving you a treat!" Quill protested. "Guess you don't get to see a place as handsome as this every day! But if you've seen all you want . . ."

Jim Tennant stood watching their departure. At the house Quill mounted his motorcycle and jogged on ahead, and Mrs. Tope looked at the old man beside her. "Where now?" she asked.

"Back to the Mill," he decided. "See if Adam's there."

"Did you find out anything?"

"Well, I found out you're an actress!" he said admiringly.

"You weren't so bad yourself! I could almost smell the barn on you!" And she asked: "But—what else?"

"I see their dog has a new blanket. And this Kell, by the looks of his clothes, is a big man. But there was one suit hanging in the closet that was nowhere as big as the other suits there. A light grey one. The pants of that suit had been wet to the knees. And there was a pair of shoes—they had heel-plates on them—that had been wet when they were put away."

She waited, and he said soberly: "I guess the dead man might have worn that suit. It was about this size. I guess he was here in this garage for a while before he—went to Faraway."

And after a moment he added: "And we found out what the other help thinks of Mrs. Kell."

"Miss Pineyard's in love with Holdom," she agreed, "and jealous of him and Mrs. Kell. But—what do the heel-plates have to do with it?"

He said: "Well, a man with heel-plates on his shoes stepped on a rock between Little Bear and Faraway, and slipped and scratched the rock." And he murmured, half to himself: "I wonder if Adam will find the tracks of shoes with heel-plates on them up at the quarry too."

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above it. They were long since disused; and the road which once had served them was in poor repair. Bee Dewain, driving her car up the steep grade at Adam's direction, resentfully complained:

"It's the only car I've got, and it's going to fly all to pieces in a minute and leave us sitting in the road!"

"Then you stay here," he suggested. "And I'll walk the rest of the way."

"Stay here and miss the fun?" She tossed her head. "But . . . this is a wild-goose chase, if you ask me."

"There's been a car up here lately," he pointed out. "You can see the tracks in the road."

When they drew near the quarries at last they came to a fork; and Adam went ahead to explore, returned to direct her to take the upper road. "I found tire-marks in a patch of sand up there," he explained.

So she drove on, in low gear; and they came out presently on the shoulder of the mountain, above the quarries. The naked rock of a broad ledge extended to a lip that was cut off as though by a knife. Bee stopped the car, and they walked to the edge and looked down into deep pits, with pools of grey water in their depths like the sockets of sightless eyes.

Beyond the quarries the slope broke steeply downward into the valley where a stream meandered, and there were meadow lands; and beyond the stream they saw the crossed runways of Holdom's landing-field, and the shining glass of greenhouses, and the slate roof of the house itself.

Adam, as Tope directed, had brought a long fishing-line and a lead weight. It was possible from the ledge above to drop a line almost straight down into the quarries. While Bee looked on with skeptical attention, he began to sound the quarry holes—there were four of them spaced along the shoulder of the mountain—patiently seeking to discover whether in the depths of the opaque grey water anything as bulky as a car could lie concealed.

And almost at once he found what he sought. "It's here," he said to Bee. She came gingerly near the edge, peering down; and he showed her how, far below them, the lead weight seemed to lodge on some bulky, submerged object, so that the water at the point was six or seven feet less deep than on either side.

"But you can't be sure that's a car," she protested.

"I'm going to make sure" he decided. "See here: Tope wanted us to look for a man's tracks. You go look for them, and keep away from here, and I'll go down and swim out and try a dive, see if I can make sure what this is down here in the water."

HE left her, scrambling down the rocky slope beside the quarry, and stripped for his swim. He had marked the spot from above; he swam slowly through the grey water, his heart pounding with an absurd apprehension, instinctively keeping his feet near the surface as though fearful something hidden in these depths might clutch at him to drag him down.

He came to the spot and stopped, treading water. His feet touched nothing, even when he lowered them as far as he could. Adam was a strong swimmer, a good diver. But under-water work with your eyes open is one thing; to dive into a blank opacity is another. It can be terrifying.

Yet in the end he did it. His head

dipped; his feet rose; he allowed the weight of his own legs, lifted above the surface, to drive him slowly down.

And seven or eight feet under water his hands touched something; he groped and felt a tire, the wire spokes of a wheel. The car was there! He sprang strongly upward, broke to surface with a gasp of relief, swam toward the shore. While he thrust his wet limbs stickily into his garments he stared at the grey water, and his spine prickled with many nameless fears. . . .

Adam was half dressed when he heard Bee calling him. He answered; and she asked: "Are you through?"

"In a minute."

"Come here, then!"

So a moment later, his coat and vest over his arm, tie in his hand, he went in the direction of her voice. He rounded a boulder and came quickly toward her.

"The car's there," he said. "I felt one of the wheels. I told you Tope was a wizard."

She was pale. "And I found a man's tracks," she said. "See here!"

Adam looked where she pointed. They stood at the brink of a steep declivity into a deep ravine; and Adam saw another road in the depths there, descending toward Ridgcomb. But he gave the road only a glance. His eye fixed on a track in the damp soil.

This was the mark of a man's shoe; and Adam saw that there was set in the heel, to retard the wear, a triangular piece of metal.

He saw other tracks of the same shoes. They were not deep. Then he said in a sudden excitement: "There was a woman with him. See!"

But Bee corrected him. "No, those are my tracks. He was alone."

He knotted his tie. "All right, come on," he said. "Let's go. We'll have to find Tope. Isn't he a wonder? He told us just where to look and what to look for. Think your friend Joe Dane could have done it?"

"Maybe not. I'm too scared to quarrel with you, anyway," she confessed. "I don't like it up here."

She slipped her arm urgently through his, and they came swiftly to where they had left her car. She drove carefully down the rocky, rutted road.

"Tope said he was going to Ridgcomb," Adam remembered. "Then back to the Mill. He may still be in Ridgcomb. Let's drive down there."

But about the time they came to Ridgcomb, Tope was arriving at Mat Cumberland's office in North Madderson, a dozen miles away.

The district attorney's office was in the courthouse. Quill had preceded them to announce their coming. Mat Cumberland and another man were here to greet them—a brisk young man, sure beyond his years.

"This is Joe Dane, Inspector," Cumberland said.

"Heard Mat speak of you," Tope said courteously, his hand extended. "Says he couldn't get along without you."

But Dane ignored Tope's hand. "I should have been consulted earlier," he protested stiffly. "In a case like this, any delay is almost sure to be fatal. I won't be responsible."

The inspector nodded. "I know just how you feel," he agreed kindly. "If I was in your shoes, and a first-class mystery broke around here, and some superannuated old fossil grabbed hold of the thing and wouldn't let go, I'd hate his insides."

The young man was a little appeased. "It seems simple enough, but it's about time something was done about it."

"Well," Tope admitted, "I've been fairly busy." He hesitated. "I've found out some things, and guessed at others. I know about what happened."

And he went on: "Late last Friday night, a little man who talked like an Englishman, and who had a woman with him, drove up to Dewain's Mill in a grey Chevalier coupé with blue trim. They had this man that's dead now under the rumble seat. Priddy put them in the cottage called Little Bear. During the night they carried this man down to Faraway and put him under the bed there."

"How can you know that?" Dane demanded.

"Well, I'm guaranteeing it," Tope assured him mildly; and he went on:

"They put him under the bed in Faraway, and sometime before daylight they pulled out. I figure that they'd



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want to get rid of the car. I've a notion it's in an old quarry Ned Quill here told me about. Adam Bruce has gone to see."

The district attorney looked at Joe Dane. "You and me wouldn't have thought of that, Joe," he said.

But Dane retorted: "We don't know the car's there! That's just a stab in the dark."

"Why, that's right," Tope agreed readily enough. "But I tried another stab," he continued. "Quill helped me on this too. I asked him to find out whether any car had been stolen around here. Well, there was one, belonged to a man named Holdom, has a summer place down near Ridgcomb. It was taken Friday night, out of the garage. Nettie Pineyard—she's Holdom's housekeeper—says Mrs. Kell, the chauffeur's wife, drove it away."

He hesitated; but no one spoke, and he went on:

"Saturday morning, Holdom telephoned from New York to the police at Ridgcomb that the car had been stolen." He turned to Quill. "Ned, you go call up your friend, the insurance man—see if he had insurance on that car and whether Holdom reported the theft to him too."

Quill disappeared; and Tope spoke more softly: "Didn't want Quill to hear what I'm telling you now," he said. "But Mrs. Tope here saw Ledforge, the Utilities man that lives down below Ridgcomb, at a meeting once, and she saw the dead man this morning. She thought he was Ledforge!"

Cumberland leaned forward, and Dane leaped to his feet. "Ledforge!" he whispered hoarsely. "By Godfrey! Say, if that's so—" His eyes shone.

But Tope said mildly: "Wait a minute, Mr. Dane. I only said that Mrs. Tope thought the dead man was Ledforge. But Ledforge is in New York. He was at a bank directors' meeting there this morning."

Dane made an exasperated gesture. "Well, for heaven's sake, if it's not him, why set off a skyrocket here?"

But then Quill returned. "Charley Fay had the insurance on the coupé," he said. "But he hasn't had any report about its being stolen."

Tope nodded, and gently he dismissed the trooper. "You've been a lot of help, Ned," he said. "I wish you'd drop in at Dewain's Mill and see if Adam's there. Tell him I'll be there soon."

So Quill departed; and Tope looked at Cumberland.

"Now, I want to do a little telephoning, Mat," he said. "Mind if I use your name?" Cumberland assented silently; and Tope put in a call for police headquarters in New York.

While they waited, "There are two or three things we ought to know," Tope explained. "Kell was at Holdom's Friday night; but he left, and Mrs. Kell hasn't been back since she drove the car away. I'd like to know where they are. And there's another thing: There was a man named Whitlock at Dewain's Mill last night, said he represented the insurance people, trying to trace a stolen car. The way he described it, it was this car. But if Holdom hasn't reported it to the insurance people—"

"Where is Whitlock?" Dane demanded. "He sounds fishy!"

"He got away before I found out what he was up to," Tope confessed; and Dane made a disgusted gesture. Then the phone rang, and Tope took the instrument.

"Hello, Pat?" he said in friendly tones. "Tope speaking. Tope! Tope, you young whelp! How are you, Pat? Haven't seen you in five years... Sure, you heard right! I was married a year ago. Still on my honeymoon."

He became serious. "But Pat, listen. I'm speaking from Mat Cumberland's office. He's the D.A. up here in Highland County, Massachusetts, yes. North Madderston is the town. He wants some information. O.K.? All right, take this down."

And he gave careful instructions: To find out whether Ledforge was in New York; to check his recent movements. What

kind of hair-oil did he use? Was he in New York over the week-end? Check up on Holdom, where he had been, where he was now.

"And Holdom's plane crashed, Saturday morning," Tope explained. "Pilot, named Bob Flint, was killed. Down on the sound somewhere. Find out what made the plane fall."

He finished, hung up the receiver; Joe Dane started to speak, and Tope looked at the young man, a certain sympathy in his eyes.

"Son," he said, "I know just about how you feel—you're itching to get action. I'm too old to run around in circles; but if you want a job, here's something you can do: A week ago, Mrs. Kell drove down to Middleford and met Ledforge at the train there. Where did they go? See if you can find out, Joe."

And he added: "We'll know a lot more when we hear from New York. You know pretty near as much as I do, right now."

THEN the phone rang, and Joe Dane took the call. "It's for you, Tope," he said, surrendering the instrument. And they heard Tope say:

"Hello... Oh, Adam... Good, glad you did... It's there, is it? Fine... Fine... Adam, did you notice whether there were heel-plates on his shoes?... Good for her. Thank her for me."

He returned the receiver to the hook. "The car's in the quarry," he said. "Adam located it. You'll want to get it out, Mat." He looked at Joe Dane in mild triumph. "So that was pretty good for a stab in the dark, Mr. Dane!"

"What's that about heel-plates?" young Dane demanded.

"Well," said Tope, "somebody with heel-plates has walked through the woods near Faraway; and a man with heel-plates left some tracks up at the quarry; and Kell, Holdom's chauffeur, had a pair of shoes with heel-plates on them. They're in his closet down at Holdom's right now."

"Then we want Kell!" Dane exclaimed. "And—Mrs. Kell? Was she running around with Ledforge? We've got to find her, too!"

Tope nodded. "It would help a lot," he assented, "if we could talk to her." He took Mrs. Tope's arm. "Let me know when you're ready to salvage the car, Mat. I want to be there. I'll be at the Mill if New York calls."

And despite Dane's efforts to detain them, he and Mrs. Tope went down the stairs, and got into the little roadster at the curb. When they were under way, she said thoughtfully:

"I don't like that young man, but he's right about one thing: You've got to find Mrs. Kell, make her tell you..."

"I guess we'll find her," he replied grimly. "But I don't expect her to tell us anything!"

She looked at him. "You know where she is?"

"Well," he confessed, "there were two or three little things I didn't tell them! That grey suit in Kell's closet, I looked at the name on the tailor's label. The name was Ledforge."

She uttered a low ejaculation. "But Mr. Ledforge might have given it to Kell—when Kell worked for him."

"It wouldn't fit Kell," Tope told her. "Kell's a big man. His uniforms were big. This suit was small."

She frowned in bewilderment. "But even so," she insisted, "what has that to do with Mrs. Kell? Where do you think she is?"

He said heavily: "I think she's in the coupé in the quarry."

"Why?" she whispered, in a still terror. "Why?"

"Adam and Bee found a man's tracks leaving there," said Tope. "Shoes with heel-plates. But there were no woman's tracks! And that grey suit in Kell's closet, there was blood on the sleeve of it, and the dead man hadn't any cut or wound that would have bled at all!"

WHEN Mrs. Tope and the inspector reached Dewain's Mill, Tope himself went indoors, but she stayed outside. The camp seemed deserted,





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till Adam Bruce and Bee Dewain, hearing the car arrive, came together from the direction of Faraway.

Tope heard their voices and came to the door. He still wore his heavy rubber boots. He called: "Hello, Adam! Come in here and play bootjack for me, will you?"

Inside the cabin, the inspector, a little flushed, more than a little hot, extended his foot; and Adam dragged the boots off, and found slippers. Tope said: "My feet are just about parboiled."

"Well, you located the car. That's good."

Adam said: "Yes. And I don't know when I've ever had to do anything that scared me more than diving into that grey water; but I felt the axle, and a wheel." He added: "And while I was doing that, Bee found the man's tracks. What do they mean?"

"You're as bad as Joe Dane, always asking questions. Son," he countered, "how long are you going to hold out on me?"

Adam protested: "Hold out?" But his face was red.

"Why, yes—just that. Why, for instance, does Balser Vade dislike you?"

"He's just a harmless crank," Adam insisted.

The inspector relaxed in his chair. "All right, son," he said. "You do as you like about telling me."

Adam hesitated in some distress. "Any idea yet who the dead man may be?" he asked at last.

Tope answered mildly: "Yes, in a way. Mrs. Tope thinks he's Ledforge, the Utilities— Why, what's the matter, Adam?"

For at that name, young Adam Bruce had come to his feet in quick astonishment, stood now leaning over Tope, and cried out:

"Ledforge?"

"Mrs. Tope says so," the old man insisted. "She saw Ledforge once at a stockholders' meeting."

Adam relaxed; he chuckled. "You startled me, for a minute," he confessed.

"Yes, I noticed that!" said Tope dryly. "Matter of fact, I meant to!"

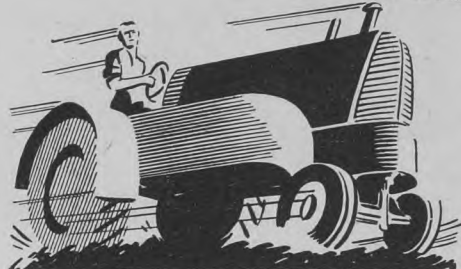
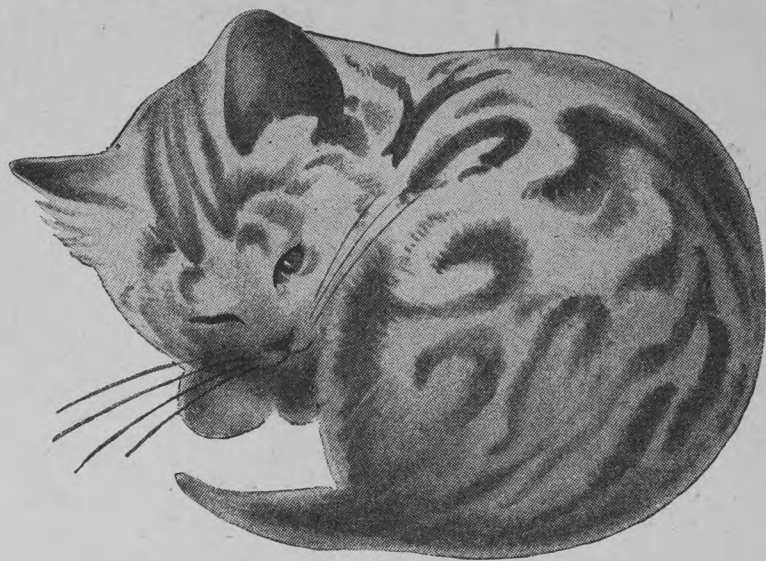
"But Mrs. Tope is wrong, Inspector," Adam declared. He hesitated. "I telephoned our people in New York this morning, from Ridgcomb, to ask about Ledforge. He's in New York! I checked on that!"

"Yes, so did we," Tope assented. "Ledforge is in New York, all right. But Adam, how did you happen to think it might be Ledforge?" He looked at the young man shrewdly. "I'm wondering," he said, "if Balser Vade—you said he was a letter-writing kind of a man—ever wrote a letter to Ledforge."

Adam surrendered. "All right," he yielded; and he grinned. "I give in. Here it is. But I think Vade's harmless. Tope. Only, Ledforge ruined him, ten years ago, in a water-power project. Since then Vade has been a little cracked on the subject of brooks and streams. I told you about that. He blames Ledforge for spoiling the rivers. Ledforge's office sent over to our people half a dozen letters, pretty wild and extravagant, from this society for the protection of rivers, signed by Vade as secretary, and threatening Ledforge with fire and brimstone! One of them said something about snatching him up in a fiery chariot, like Elijah or whoever



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it was; and that suggested kidnapping, so I came up here to see Vade."

He added: "Vade admitted writing the letters, and he dared me to arrest him. He seemed to want to be prosecuted, seemed to want publicity, and a chance to tell the world what sort of a man Ledforge is. I think he'd like to play the martyr, but Ledforge didn't want to prosecute." He added: "I suppose Ledforge was as anxious to avoid publicity as Vade was to get it."

TOPE nodded understandingly. "But after that, naturally you thought of Ledforge..."

"And I checked up," Adam agreed. "And Ledforge is in New York."

Tope beamed. "So this can't be he," he assented. "And Mrs. Tope's mistaken." And he went on to recite to Adam the discoveries of the day. He told the tale of the stolen car, and of Whitlock's enquiries, and of the visit to the Holdom place, and Miss Nettie Pineyard.

"And Mrs. Kell and Kell have disappeared," he explained. "Holdom was expected home Friday, but he didn't come. Kell came, in the limousine, and drove away in it afterward; and Mrs. Kell drove the coupé away."

Adam ran to swift conjecture. "And Kell joined her later, came with her here? Then they dumped the coupé in the quarry and headed for Canada?"

"Well, maybe," Tope admitted. "What was it? Jealousy? Is Mrs. Kell... the flighty kind?"

The inspector said reluctantly: "Well, it looks as if she spent last week—ten days ago—with Ledforge somewhere. And if she'd go away with him, maybe she'd go with others. Maybe this dead man—long as he's not Ledforge—was one of them." He slapped his knee in sudden recollection. "We ought to have sent a tracer out after the limousine that Kell drove away in. Adam, do that, will you?"

Adam nodded. "Yes. What else?" "Why, it just might be that Ledforge is really missing, and they're covering it up in New York."

"I'll find out," Adam promised. "And one other thing, Adam: May not have any connection, but I'd like to know. Holdom had a plane—pilot named Bob Flint—and it crashed in Long Island Sound on Saturday morning. Flint, he was killed. I'd like to know what made that plane crash. Maybe you can find out through the Department of Commerce."

Adam said: "Sure." Then they heard voices outside; and Mrs. Tope and Bee Dewain appeared in the open doorway. Bee had sandwiches wrapped in a napkin, and a glass of milk.

Tope chuckled, and looked at Mrs. Tope. "I declare," he exclaimed, "I forgot all about food!" He took the sandwiches and began to eat them comfortably.

Adam said: "Bee, I've got to do some telephoning; don't want the neighbors listening in. Want to run me to town?"

"Take our car," Tope suggested. "No need to bother Miss Dewain. I want to tell her what's been happening." He added with a chuckle: "You'll get back quicker if I keep her here!"

SO Adam drove away alone; and Tope told Bee what there was to tell. The girl listened silently till he finished. Then she said:

"No, the dead man isn't Mr. Ledforge! I had a letter from him this morning. Or rather Mr. Eberly did!" And she explained: "You see, Mr. Eberly and Mr. Ledforge are old friends. The bank had some Utilities bonds, and that was one reason it had to close; but Mr. Eberly never blamed Mr. Ledforge. Mr. Eberly left Saturday morning to go fishing in New Brunswick, and—I used to be his secretary—he arranged to have his mail delivered to me so I could take care of it. He's not married, so he often does that when he goes away."

Tope listened without questions, and she went on:

"This letter came this morning from Mr. Ledforge. He wants Mr. Eberly to come over and fish with him in the trout-pond above his summer place, tomorrow afternoon. Mr. Ledforge wrote the letter himself."

"You sure?" "Yes, of course. I've never seen him, but I know his handwriting. I'll show you the letter."

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Tope said mildly: "Why, I'd like to see it." And he asked: "Any way you can get in touch with Mr. Eberly, Miss Dewain?"

"Telephone," she said. "Or telegraph."

"I wish you'd call him up, tell him about this invitation." And he added disarmingly: "If he don't want to come back to fish with Mr. Ledforge, ask him to fix it so I can go in his place. I like to fish."

"All right," she assented, amused; and Tope asked:

"Mr. Eberly seen Ledforge lately, has he?"

She shook her head. "No. Mr. Ledforge called him up about ten days ago—Saturday, I think it was. Wanted to see him; but Mr. Eberly was in Boston over that week-end. The operator knows I handle some things for Mr. Eberly, so she shifted the call to me."

"Where did Ledforge call from?" Tope wondered.

"Up here, I think," Bee replied. "He said something about 'dropping in.' Something casual. Not as if he were in New York."

Tope nodded, and then they heard a car turn in and stop by the Mill, and Bee looked out and said: "It's Mr. Cumberland, and Joe Dane."

"Call them up here," Tope directed sharply. "Before the whole world knows they're here!"

He came to the door as Bee made haste down the drive; but she was too late to avert the danger Tope foresaw. Joe Dane was inflated by the prospect of handling what promised to become a celebrated case. So when they turned in off the road and stopped beside the Mill, where Earl Priddy was working, Joe called in important tones:

"Hi, Earl! Where's Inspector Tope?"

Priddy straightened up and scratched his head and stared. "Inspector?" he echoed, his eyes wide. "Inspector of what? What's he inspector of, Joe?"

Bee, arriving just then on the spot, hushed him sharply.

"Never mind, Earl! It's none of your business. Go on with your work." She summoned Joe away; the car moved on to Cascade, where Tope waited, and the two men alighted there.

Tope looked at Dane in mild disapproval. "Young man," he said, "you advertise too much!"

"It's all right," Bee said reassuringly. "I told Earl it was none of his business!"

Tope chuckled. "Why, that's fine, miss," he assented. "After that, Earl Priddy won't give it another thought, I know! You certainly fixed that." And he added gently:

"You go along now and telephone Mr. Eberly. And let me see that letter." And as the girl turned away, he said: "Come in, Mat. Come in, Dane. I guess Earl doesn't matter. We couldn't keep this thing dark much longer."

So they came in, Dane defensively defiant. "I don't believe in secret procedures, anyway," he protested. "The way to solve a puzzle like this is to cut right through it, get at the heart of it."

"That been your experience?" Tope asked in a dry tone; and Dane's cheek flamed. Tope looked at Cumberland. "I judge you heard from New York, Mat?" he remarked.

Cumberland nodded. "Why, yes, Tope," he said. "We did!"

And he added slowly: "They've located Holdom. He's in a private hospital down near Hartford with a broken head, a concussion, maybe a fractured skull."

Tope took care to betray no excitement or surprise. "That so, Mat?" he asked casually. "Well, start at the beginning. Let's have the whole thing!"

Cumberland nodded, and he explained:

"New York says Ledforge and Holdom started up here last Friday, in Holdom's limousine, with Kell driving. They left New York early, about nine o'clock. Holdom went around to pick Ledforge up at his apartment; and the officer on the beat saw Ledforge come out and get in."

"They don't know when Ledforge

came back, but he was in his office Monday morning, and he was at the bank and in his office this morning."

Tope nodded, and Cumberland went on:

"Well, today, when they had made sure about Ledforge, they sent a man to Holdom's office, and the staff there was all excited, because they had just had a telephone message from Holdom. He's in this private hospital in a little town just this side of the Connecticut line."

"He's been there since Saturday morning. He was picked up beside the road unconscious, with a lump on his head, and his scalp was cut and had bled some. There was rain down there just before daylight, but his clothes were dry. He was laid out on a grassy bank where the first car that came along after daylight was bound to see him. This doctor had been out on a confinement case, and found him."

"Holdom was unconscious until today. He had intervals yesterday, but not enough to know who he was; but today he told the doctor to call his office." He added: "The office hadn't worried, because sometimes he didn't get back till Tuesday anyway."

Tope exclaimed in mild exasperation: "Didn't the doctor know who he was? Holdom must have had letters, labels in his clothes, something. A doctor that will keep an unconscious man for three days without trying to find out who he is and let his people know, needs looking into, Mat!"

"Holdom told his office he'd had a smash-up," Cumberland volunteered.

"Smash-up! Smash-up!" Tope repeated exasperatedly. "That's a lie, Mat! He and Ledforge started up here together, with Kell driving. Ledforge came back to his office Monday morning with no word of a smash-up! Kell came home with no word of a smash-up! The car showed no signs of a smash-up! It doesn't make sense, Mat."

"Holdom told his office he'd be there tomorrow," said Cumberland.

Tope looked up at him.

"If he was unconscious in this doctor's hospital, he didn't telephone from New York on Saturday," he said.

"Telephone?" Cumberland echoed.

"Some one telephoned!" Tope reminded him irritably. Telephoned the police at Ridgcomb, and said he was Holdom and that his coupé had been stolen!"

"Holdom must know something!" Cumberland said. "I'll send for him, get him up here, as soon as he is able."

Tope nodded. "Of course. I guess you'd better send Dane," he decided. "Dane, as soon

as Holdom can travel, bring him up here. He's a material witness, anyway. Make him come."

Dane protested: "No need of my going. Any policeman . . ."

But Tope urged: "Needs a responsible man with a head on his shoulders, son." He hesitated. "Mat," he apologized, "I'm speaking out of turn. After all, this is your show."

"That's all right," Cumberland insisted. "Joe, you do what Tope says."

Dane insisted stubbornly: "I ought to be here, keep in touch with things."

Tope touched his arm. "We want to know more about this doctor down there, son," he declared. "Maybe he's one of the gang. You look him over, ask him a few questions, size him up, see what you think of him."

So Dane was flattered into consenting. "Well, that's so," he agreed. "I'd better do that. I'll check up on him, and bring Holdom back. I'll see what I can get out of Holdom on the way."

But Tope objected to this, and with some violence. "Don't you, Dane!" he commanded. "Don't you ask Holdom anything. Just tell him you've got orders to bring him up here. Let him stew in his own juice till we're ready to talk to him. If he's been unconscious since Saturday, there's a lot he doesn't know. By the time you get him back here, maybe we'll know more than we do now, be able to ask him some questions he can't answer."

And he added, remembering: "By the

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The Royal Bank of Canada Annual Meeting

Morris W. Wilson, President, says continued Canadian development depends on world-wide system of trading based on International monetary and exchange stability.

The vital importance to Canada's future welfare of a healthy foreign trade based on international monetary and exchange stability was emphasized by Morris W. Wilson, President of The Royal Bank of Canada, at the bank's Annual Meeting.

Canada owed her economic development from the earliest days, said Mr. Wilson, to foreign trade and the level of pre-war exports would not only have to be maintained after the war, but actually expanded, possibly to double their pre-war value, if Canada was to secure an adequate national income. "In our own selfish interests we are compelled," he said, "to prefer a world-wide system of trading. There is no altruism about it."

CANNOT STAND ALONE

Mr. Wilson readily admitted that there were certain measures which Canada might take independently to preserve her foreign markets—the maintenance and improvement of the quality of her exports, vigorous salesmanship and the acceptance of imports from countries to which we export up to the limit either of their capacity to sell to us or of our ability to absorb their products. These basic principles, he said, Canada could and should adopt, whatever the rest of the world might do.

"Furthermore," he said, "as I stated a year ago, I believe it would be sound policy for Canada not only to extend liberal long-term credits to countries who are actual or potential buyers of Canadian products, but, in special cases to make outright gifts of food, raw material, finished goods and machinery to assist and hasten the rehabilitation of such countries."

Such measures, Mr. Wilson felt, Canada could adopt independently of the policies of other nations and still other alternatives were available to her. But he made it abundantly clear that hope for a healthy Canadian economy would be slight indeed without international co-operation in the field of foreign trade and without international monetary and exchange stability.

Mr. Wilson reviewed the function of gold as an international currency prior to and after the last war, pointing out that the "gold standard" was never entirely automatic in its operation. He reviewed the various factors which had led to the breakdown and abandonment of the standard in 1931 and the efforts by the individual nations, acting independently and without regard for the external repercussions of their policies, to protect their own interests by manipulation of exchange, higher and higher tariffs on imports, quantitative

quotas and bulk purchases, and by crude barter. This, he said, inevitably led to international economic chaos.

Upon this chaos had now been superimposed the new disequilibrium of a second World War. The great importing countries, including Great Britain and those of Europe, had suffered the destruction of their industrial machinery and, particularly Great Britain, loss of overseas markets. Other countries, notably those of North America, had found their industries and agriculture greatly expanded. "In order to maintain employment," said Mr. Wilson, "it would be necessary for these countries, and particularly Canada, to export to an extent greater than was necessary even before 1939."

BRETTON WOODS

Mr. Wilson heartily endorsed the efforts, made at Bretton Woods last July, by the experts of forty-four countries to evolve a system of international control of foreign exchange and investment, with a view to providing exchange stability. While the programme was no panacea for post-war problems, he reported that practical businessmen were largely in agreement with the Bretton Woods experts and at a meeting at Rye, N.Y., had recommended a Multilateral Trade Convention for all countries to provide for the progressive lowering of trade barriers; the elimination of quotas and import embargoes; the abandonment of discriminatory trade practices; the abandonment of national sales and production monopolies.

"It appears to me," said Mr. Wilson, "that the next step in preparation for the general resumption of foreign trade after the war must be discussions and agreement between governments on commercial policy. If some standard of commercial policy is not established prior to the resumption of general trading, we may see the continuance of the predatory practices of the pre-war era."

"Canadian economic development, in the future as in the past, depends upon the maintenance and development of international trade. Monetary stability is one of the prerequisites of international trade. For Canada, therefore, monetary stability is of paramount importance. If we acknowledge these premises, our course of action is clear. We must implement the measures necessary to secure them. I sincerely hope that Canada will be one of the first to approve the principles of the Bretton Woods agreements, leaving the Government free to deal with matters of detail in consultation and agreement with the other countries concerned."

way, Joe, I want you to find out some things for me: Ask Medford about gas from the exhaust, and whether it could get into the rumble-seat, and whether this dead man had breathed any of it, and whether he was drugged. And see if you can find out where Mrs. Kell and Ledford went last week-end."

Joe and Cumberland turned toward the door; but there they met Bee Dewain. The girl's face was red and strained; she would have spoken. Tope, with a sudden violence of words, urged Dane and Cumberland toward the car; and only when they were gone did he turn to Bee.

NOW, Miss Dewain," he said gravely, "I judged you've got bad news?"

She nodded. "I telephoned Ed Priest's camps," she said unhappily. "Mr. Eberly's not there. They don't expect him. They haven't heard from him."

Tope whistled softly. "That's where he planned to go?"

"Yes, that's where he always goes. That's where he said he was going."

Tope wagged his head. "Child," he said gently, "I hadn't ought to have asked you to telephone up there. It's just a bad habit of mine, working on a business like this, whenever anyone tells me anything, to check up and see if it's so. I've no notion that Mr. Eberly has anything to do with this. As far as wondering where he is . . ." He chuckled, touched her arm. "Don't ever wonder about a fisherman," he urged. "You can't rely on them any more than you can on a trout in the brook. . . . Did you think to fetch the letter?"

It was in her hand. "Here it is," she said.

Tope unfolded the single sheet, he looked at the letterhead, then read the scrawled words.

Dear Carl:

How about some fishing this week? Trout ought to take hold. Shall we try the pond? I'll be home sometime Wednesday afternoon. Come about half-past four. That will let us catch the evening rise. You'd better plan to stay the night in case we keep at it till dark. No need of answering this, because if you're not there by four-thirty, I'll go ahead alone.

Here's luck!

Leddy.

The old man asked: "Carl is Mr. Eberly's name?"

"Yes."

"Ledford wrote this, eh? That the way he signs himself?"

"Yes." She watched him almost fearfully.

And he returned the letter to her, touched her hand. "Now don't you worry," he urged again. "Mr. Eberly's all right." And he asked: "Earl Priddy has disappeared, has he?"

Bee answered him in some surprise: "Why, yes. How did you know? Mrs. Priddy wanted him to come and peel potatoes for supper, but he's gone! Just simply vanished into thin air!"

Tope nodded, chuckling. "Earl's out spreading the news," he assured her. "I guess the excitement is due to start," he predicted. "Country folks have tongues like a lot of dominoes. You set one of them wagging, and you wag them all."

"I'll go after him," Bee promised. "Find him, make him be still." She hurried away.

Tope sat down on the edge of the bed. "I'm getting old," he confessed. "Going to catch a nap before supper-time."

He lay down, and Mrs. Tope covered him over and made him comfortable.

(To be continued.)



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"Do you think Mozart played as well at his age?"

THE COUNTRYWOMAN

The U.F.W.A. Meeting

By MARJORIE K. STILES

DURING the annual convention of the United Farm Women of Alberta held in Edmonton, the third week of January, a Panel Discussion by the Women's Regional Advisory Committee of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board brought to light many questions and answers which had been bothering rural women in general. Mrs. Butterworth, Mrs. W. E. Stuart, Mme. Tremblay, Mrs. A. H. Rogers led in the discussion. "Why is there so little children's underwear on hand?" they were asked. Their reply being, that the needles trades who are poorly paid had changed over to better paying war plants, another reason being the shortage in imports of cotton yarns to manufacture underwear.

"Why is it so hard to get children's shoes?" they were asked; "when it is reported that more pairs were made in 1943 than in 1939." The poorer quality of children's shoes they said was because the heavy hides from the Argentine are made into army boots, while children's shoes are made from the lighter weight Canadian hides.

Mrs. Stuart reminded the convention that it was very much harder to control quality in goods than it was prices. However as a result of demands put forward by the Alberta and Quebec women, manufacturers are now required to label garments.

"Save these labels and your purchase slips and when quality is not satisfactory or you are overcharged send the complaint to your regional W.P.T.B. Don't just let off steam to your neighbor. We are in a position to do something about abuses," Mrs. Butterworth stated.

One delegate showed a receipt for an oven thermometer which cost her \$3.00. In 1938 she had bought a similar one for eighty cents. Mrs. Jack Sutherland, Hanna, asked the members of the Panel if there was a ceiling price on second-hand articles such as washing machines. "There is," Mrs. Butterworth replied, "but it is quite high, possibly about eighty per cent of the original cost. However this can only be enforced if public opinion is behind it."

Mrs. W. Ross, president of the U.F.W.A. who is a member of this regional W.P.T.B. in Edmonton, said where she lived at Millet, auctioneers were trying to do their bit in this respect. She knew of instances at sales, when the ceiling price was reached and several were still bidding on an article, when the auctioneer put their names in a hat and had them draw lots for it.

There was a stern demand from many of the delegates that as there were too many frivolous articles on the market, they should be curtailed. Mrs. Butterworth said it was possible that the nylon, which Mrs. Ward had seen in slips was not strong enough for parachutes. Housecoats, the Panel ladies said, might have been imported, and if so, price ceilings did not apply.

It was suggested that every rural organization such as United Farm Women's locals should have a liaison officer, who would receive bulletins from the Regional Committee of the W.P.T.B. She would be expected to study these bulletins and regularly report changes to her local and in turn could keep them informed. The convention adopted a resolution to this effect.

Mr. George Hoadley, Chairman Health Study Bureau, Ottawa, said there should be three parts to any national health scheme: these should build health, preserve health, and cure sickness. The time was here, he said, when the layman should no longer be allowed to diagnose his own sickness. He felt the general practitioner, who will continue to be a vital factor to farm health, should have greater consideration than that outlined in the proposed health insurance scheme. He felt the eight points outlined by the health committee of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture covered the matter more adequately and a resolution endorsing these eight points was passed by the convention. Mr. Hoadley concluded, "the children of today, will be the mothers and fathers of tomorrow. Give them the best of health."

Mrs. George Inglis, Penhold, convener of health, reported the hospitalization for maternity cases in Alberta is now free for a period of 12 days. Diagnostic examinations, treatment and surgery in cancer cases are now free, the only cost to the patient being for hospitalization. Treatment for infantile paralysis is also free, and is arranged for in the Junior Red

An Alberta contributor tells of interesting farm women's meeting---and an explanation is given

Cross hospital in Calgary, as well as the University hospital in Edmonton.

"By law," Mrs. Inglis concluded, "we have made it compulsory for all our children to have an education; we have not done this with health. We should see that every child has the best chance for mental and physical development possible. The well-being of all is the concern of each of us."

Mrs. Minot Stetson, Fort Saskatchewan, is well situated to be convener of legislation, living close to Edmonton where the provincial legislature meets. She feels in this topic there are three main principles—the need of a given regulation, its passage through parliament and its administration as a law.

She reported the establishment of the Department of Public Welfare; reduction of voting age from twenty-one to nineteen years; that children whose parents object to flag saluting on religious grounds, are exempt from giving the salute, but must stand at attention, silently, during the ceremony.

Referring to the Family Allowance Act, Mrs. Stetson concluded, "The most confirmed bachelor benefits immeasurably from the rising generation. We should therefore not fail to perceive the justice in offering assistance to parents of large families, since society depends upon youth for so much."

Robert Putnam, Director Agricultural Extension Service, said there were now five full-time district home economists and three temporary ones from the Olds School of Agriculture working throughout the summer. Mr. Putnam felt one of their greatest contributions would be to make the younger generation "home conscious." While there are now eighty-five girls' clubs organized through the extension service and their efficiency awards provide for a week at the Olds School of Agriculture, there is need of a special girls' program in the national junior club work.

Mrs. Anne Peters in her report on Social Planning cautioned the women to find out "Why We Have Unemployment," a topic she finds overlooked in the many briefs on postwar planning. She reported that a course on Marriage and Family Life, the first of its kind in Canada, has been introduced in the University of British Columbia. Mrs. Peters said Saskatchewan has undertaken steps to "wipe venereal disease out of the province in five years." Resolutions on this topic were presented from several constituencies; those carried requested that pre-marital and pre-natal venereal tests be compulsory and the continuation of educational work along these lines.

Lieut. Jocelyn Page, education officer of the C.W.-A.C., said that western farm girls had been outstanding in the services. She warned that even if these girls take specialized training offered by the government on their demobilization the cities may not be able to absorb them all. She urged that those who return to the farm be accepted as partners, in the home, the farm and community.

Mrs. Ross, president of the U.F.W.A. said to do this we must first solve the problem of giving honorable status to housework on the farm. She liked the sug-

gestion of Lawrence Proudfoot, vice-president of the Junior U.F.A., that girls working in farm homes be called "home assistants."

Interest in the Institute for the Blind, has long been part of the U.F.W.A. program. This year delegates to the convention assisted a blind man, by magazine subscriptions, toward procuring a "seeing eye" dog.

The convention was closed with an address given by Mrs. Amy Warr, on behalf of the Officers' Aluminae of the U.F.W.A.; she urged all women to "Learn the language of sympathy, understanding and tolerance. We need it at home as well as internationally. Keep it alive in your United Farm Women's locals."

An Explanation Made

MENTION is made on this and on another page in this issue of the shortage of children's underwear. Mending, making-over and hand laundry methods are tedious pieces of work but they are necessary today because of the need to make our present supplies do their utmost duty in wear. In our part of the country, there is very little new stock being shown on the shelves of departmental stores. If any stock of children's underwear does come in, it is in small lots and disappears so quickly that it would seem to require the services of a detective to trace its appearance.

"Canadian manufacturers are now making as much children's underwear as it is possible to produce in this country," is the information given by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board through a recent issue of its Consumer News. "It represents 145 per cent increase over normal production, accomplished in spite of an overall shortage of labor and suitable yarns."

"The United Nations have pooled their supplies of yarn and each country draws a fair share for essential requirements. We cannot expect an increase in our allocation because consumer power has swollen the demand for all kinds of clothing. If we increase the production of one type of commodity it has to be made at the expense of another. Neither is it possible in the majority of cases for the manufacturers of adult clothing to change to the production of children's underwear. The machinery is entirely different and calls for different types of skilled labor. Existing machinery cannot be replaced by new equipment in wartime."

"There is unquestionably enough children's underwear being made in Canada today to take care of all essential needs. The only remaining problem is that of fair distribution, and here the public can themselves make the greatest contribution by buying only what is absolutely necessary for immediate requirements and by making over and making do with what they already have."

There are now 14 Women's Regional Advisory Committees set up across Canada, functioning under the W.P.T.B. They are citizen boards and the members serve as a patriotic duty in time of need, and are unpaid. Through them information is forwarded to the Board at Ottawa, and information is channelled from government sources to consumers. Practically all women's organizations of importance

have liaison officers, who are supposed to keep in touch with these Regional Committees, for the purpose of keeping their own membership informed.

Where it is considered that there is hardship through shortages or price abuse, it should be referred to the nearest Regional Advisory Committee.

The Wanderer

By HESPER LE GALLIENNE

The loose foot of a wanderer
Is cursed as well as blest!
It urges ever, ever on
And never gives him rest.

It leads him over hill and dale,
By river and by lea,
Across the russet moors at even
Down to the surging sea.

It fills him so with wanderlust
He'll never set him down.
To build a home with hearth and fire
Near a friendly town.

No maid will ever hold him long
Tho' she be trim and fair—
He urges ever, ever on
With stardust in his hair.



Postwar rural housing problems were studied in an intensive fall, short course, with 20 States participating at Purdue University, Indiana. On left, G. B. Harrison, secretary of Farm Housing Committee, University of Saskatchewan.

PLANNING THE FARM HOUSE

Now is the time for rural men and women to offer ideas and discuss what is required in a farm dwelling

Should Consult Women

WHENEVER a man, though he be an architect, draws the plan for a house without consulting a woman, he is asking for trouble.

Your idea of a kitchen being extra cozy in in-between seasons sounds O.K., but few farm women would desire half the ground floor made into a kitchen. Then, too, a kitchen is a workshop, which is impossible of being in apple-pie order all the time. Why not have a dining-room opening directly off the kitchen? Your kitchen would allow of this, and the heat from the range would keep the dining-room quite comfortable in spring and fall. As for a farm dining-room not being used, that depends upon the family. Ours is in constant use.

Have you lived in a two-storey house which had a downstairs bathroom? It is most inconvenient and never private. When water has to be forced by wind-mill or pump, it is as easy to have an upstairs bathroom as not. In place of the downstairs bathroom, I would suggest a small washroom, which is a great convenience.

Your covered porch is something new. But what would you use it for in winter? A farm house utilizes all available space all the year 'round. Could this be a shelter for the winter's fuel—handy and dry?

A downstairs bedroom is a boon when one is ill or aged. We found it necessary to build one on to our house for a bed-sitting room for the aged grandmothers. Two followed each other to spend their last years here. Having them downstairs made it possible for them to have the family for company and for the housewife to care for them as well as the home without any running up and down stairs.

So far as height and appearance of bedroom walls go. I have no objection to the sloping roof joining the low side walls. I object on other grounds. Every summer my husband complains how hot the upstairs rooms are. The sloping room is what causes the heat, for an attic helps to insulate a house. I doubt not that others will find your ideas differ from theirs. One thing you might have mentioned in connection with stucco, it cuts the cost of winter



fuel considerably.—Mabel W. R. McPhail, Sask.

Added Opinions

Don't let the men put in one of those high foundations that makes it necessary to climb four steps to enter the house.

Insulate all the house. That keeps it warmer in winter and cooler in summer. When our son needed a bedroom, we had a sunporch, which was one of the most-used rooms in the house, insulated and find it most convenient for his room. Mrs. F. S., Alta.

I disagree with The Country Guide August article regarding the number of bedrooms (four). By the time most farmers could afford such a house, their sons are wanting to marry and need a small house on the premises. And too, more married men are hired on the farm now and they need a separate house. By all means have at least one downstairs bedroom.—M.K.S., Alta.

Turn to page 54

Pointed Paragraphs

Excerpts directly quoted from Reconstruction Committee report on Housing and Community Planning

SPECIAL attention must be given to the subject of the design of farm housing, both for ownership and tenancy. There has been far too little attention to this in the past on the part of builders and architects, and many mistakes in rural construction have been made because patterns and methods have been taken over with little or no thought from urban models.

* * *

In farm housing, one of the important facts of which account must be taken is the extent to which a farm home is part of the farm productive unit, and requires entirely different planning for storage needs, canning facilities, the preparation of animal feeds and much larger-scale kitchen and laundry facilities.

Another aspect of the subject is the necessity of catering for different regions, with differences of climate and available building materials. Design and costs must necessarily vary according as they are appropriate to the Fraser Valley, the Prairies, the Maritimes, northern Ontario and so forth. The location of the house on the farm itself might well be the subject of some research, and its proper relation to water supplies, farm buildings, septic tanks, etc., should be considered.

In general farm housing should be studied as a subject with its own requirements and problems. Co-operation should be sought from departments of agriculture; from architects familiar with or willing to study rural conditions; and—by no means least in importance—means should be found of consulting the views of farmers and farm housewives on the subject.

It is not to be assumed that agricultural conditions and their attendant housing requirements are the same in all parts of the country; but the fact of first importance is that farm housing (including in this term all other types of rural housing) is a matter which concerns approximately one-third of the Dominion's population.

* * *

Because the separation of the house from the rest of the farm property is not common, however, it is not widely realized how low is the value of the houses erected on most Canadian farms. The average value of all farm buildings (as compiled by the Census of Agriculture Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics) was \$1,481 . . . the values reflect in some definite measure, low standards, poor structures or facilities, or deterioration, or something of all of them.

* * *

Throughout the west farm houses are consistently smaller, the average for Alberta, for instance, being 3.1 (rooms). What is more important is that almost everywhere farm families are larger than city families. No concerted evidence has been brought together but various reports and articles have spoken of overcrowding in farm homes at present.

* * *

The foregoing paragraphs have been lifted out of context and quoted from the report of the Advisory Committee on Reconstruction—Part IV, on Housing and Community Planning (March 24, 1944)—a 300-page blue-book worthy of study by individuals and groups, can be secured for the sum of \$1.00 from the King's Printer, Ottawa.

it is never wide enough to cover the full steps and the ends have to be painted or varnished. That is where the dust shows and collects in the corners.

I think the stairway and upstairs hall is the hardest part to houseclean. We farm women do our own decorating and if you could see us balancing precariously on a box on top of a plank placed across the stair railing, with a paint can in one hand and a brush in the other, trying desperately to reach the farthest corner of the ceiling, I think you would agree it is a pretty dangerous position. Anything could happen.

Then what about carrying out those mattresses for airing? Friend husband



is usually too busy to help at that time. If I were having an upstairs I'd plan a balcony over a porch or something on which to air mattresses, shake mats, etc.

Why not be ostentatious and build the ground floor large enough to have

sufficient bedrooms for your family. In my opinion the spare bedroom is out. I do not believe in having any room in the house just for company. I would have a small sewing room adjoining the kitchen. In it I'd have a couch that could be converted into a double bed. I'd have my sewing machine in there and a table hinged on the wall, for cutting patterns, that could be dropped down when not in use. I'd do all my mending there and save cluttering up the kitchen with scraps of cloth, etc. That room would serve as a bedroom for unexpected company or the extra help in threshing time. If more beds were needed, open out the chesterfield-bed in the living-room.

I agree with not having a separate dining-room. Those folding tables are my idea of convenience and saving space. Also that interchangeable glass and screened-in porch is something my husband and I have talked about and will have as soon as we can afford it. I would not have the garage connected to the house, as I consider it a fire risk. It is better to be on the safe side.

I hope some day to have my dream house and am planning all the time. I think about it while I'm working, then when I get a few spare minutes, I draw it out on paper to see if the plan would be practical. Would like to get a lot of new and perhaps better ideas.—Mrs. L. Haight, Manitoba.

The Place Called Home

HERE is a lot of living in a farm house. It is workshop, place of relaxation and social centre for the family. There should be adequate scope in it for the interests of every member of the family who calls it "home." If rural areas are to hold their population and attract more people to them, especially young people and women, the farm house must be made a place of more convenience, comfort and beauty than it has been.

The size is often determined by the immediate resources of the owner at the time the plans are drawn up. There has been a tendency, too often, to build a house, which at the time of building is considered "only temporary" with the hope that, at some hazily distant time, it will be replaced by a more suitable structure. So often when the time does come, when resources are considered adequate for a better, and usually a larger house, the children have "flown the nest" and set up home-making elsewhere. There is for many of them a memory of a house that was cramped, inconvenient, lacking in comfort and that permitted little privacy for the development of each individual's personality.

There is now, a growing interest in the planning of suitable farm houses. Many will be built in the postwar period, through individual enterprise, under veteran's re-establishment or possibly semi-public schemes of housing. Many present houses will not be replaced by new ones. The planning will include alterations, repairs and the installation of labor-saving devices. Impetus is given to this work by the findings of the Reconstruction Committee set up for the Dominion. There will be planning boards in each province. Some of these are already at work making surveys of needs, available materials and costs as well as practical plans. The rural dweller will thus have much more direction and help than he has hitherto had. It will be most important that the farm man and woman take a lively interest in the whole subject; to come forward with ideas and to be prepared to stand in judgment of what is submitted for approval.

Given good and workable ideas, there is a marvellous opportunity to spread them widely and quickly through the modern means of press, radio, discussion groups and extension services of universities and departments of agriculture.—Amy J. Roe.

Like One-Storey Type

THE article entitled If I Were Going to Build in the August issue, written by R. D. Colquette, interested me greatly. For the most part I agree wholeheartedly, but on one point I do not. That is having an upstairs in the house. I think most women will agree with me that there is less labor connected with keeping a house clean if it is all on the ground floor. It saves carrying brooms, mops, dust pan up and down stairs. Then the stair steps are a bugbear. They always seem dusty no matter how hard you try to keep them clean. If you have stair oilcloth, it soon wears out on the nose of the step and has to be replaced. Then too,

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"MAGIC" Peach Layer Cake

MAGIC PEACH LAYER CAKE

- 2 1/4 cups sifted cake flour
- 2 3/4 tsp. Magic Baking Powder
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1 cup white corn syrup
- 2 eggs, unbeaten
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1/4 tsp. almond extract

Sift the dry ingredients together three times. Cream shortening. Add syrup gradually, beating well after each addition. Add 1/4 of flour mixture. Blend well. Add eggs, one at a time; beat well after each. Add remaining flour mixture in thirds, alternately with milk in halves, beating well after each addition. Add flavoring. Bake in 2 greased lightly floured 8" layer cake pans at 375°F. for 30 minutes or until done. Serve with peach-halves and whipped cream on top and between the layers.



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Mid-Winter Meals

Something new and different in ideas for menu making is welcomed at this season

By BERNICE FAINTUCH

MID-WINTER to the busy housewife, means the time of year when she reaches into her "idea-basket" hoping to find some new ways of preparing beans or some new recipe to avoid dull monotony in menus.

The appetites of the family increase with the decrease in the outdoor temperature. This keeps the housewife's imagination working overtime in order to have as much variety as possible in her weekly menus. Her cupboards are apt at this time to carry a limited stock of materials. Last fall she preserved fruits and three or four kinds of vegetables. She welcomes recipes that call for those fruits and vegetables that she has on hand. She needs an "idea-basket" rather than a fancy cook-book. Out with the recipes calling for fresh celery, green pepper, bananas and fresh tomatoes. In go new ways of serving home-preserved fruits and vegetables, jams and jellies. Here are some interesting soups, main-dishes and desserts that will be simple to prepare and a pleasure to set before the hungry family.

Spanish Vegetable Soup

- 1 1/2 c. canned tomatoes
- 1 pt. canned green beans
- 1/4 c. canned corn
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 tsp. grated onion
- 2 c. hot water
- 2 c. rich veal stock
- 2 tsp. salt
- 1 T. sugar

Combine ingredients and heat thoroughly. Serves 4 to 6.

Corn and Chicken Soup

- 1 c. canned corn
- 1 c. minced canned (or freshly cooked) chicken
- 1 qt. canned (or freshly cooked) chicken broth
- 2 egg yolks, slightly beaten
- 2 T. butter
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 c. hot milk

Heat corn and force through coarse sieve or mash with wooden spoon. Add this and the chicken to stock, bring to a boil and simmer, covered, 15 minutes. Gradually stir hot milk into egg yolks, add to soup mixtures and cook two minutes, stirring constantly; add butter and season to taste with salt and pepper. Serves eight.

Surprise Dish

Preserved meats—whether they are smoked, pickled or canned—are the basis of a number of satisfying main dishes. Sliced cold meat, potato salad (hot or cold), cole slaw, and pickles is a Saturday night favorite in many homes. A good way to make use of small quantities of leftover meat is to make a meat pie with biscuit or mashed potato topping. Leftover meat may be ground and served in such dishes as spaghetti and meat balls, meat loaf, or meat roll. Spread seasoned ground meat on biscuit dough, roll like a jelly roll, bake in hot oven, serve with gravy.

- 2 c. canned, or freshly cooked, meat, diced (beef, veal, lamb or chicken)
- 2 1/4 c. canned vegetables, drained (peas, carrots, corn, green beans may be used)
- 1 c. milk
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 T. fat
- 1/4 c. vegetable liquid or meat broth
- 3 T. flour

Melt fat in saucepan. Blend in flour, salt and pepper. Stir in liquid slowly. Boil for two minutes, stirring constantly. Add milk, vegetables and meat and heat to boiling point. Pour into greased baking dish. Cover top with baking powder biscuits. Bake in hot oven till biscuits are brown—about 25 minutes.

Ham and Corn Bread

- 1 lb. smoked ham, raw
- 3 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 1 1/2 c. flour
- 3 T. sugar
- 3/4 c. corn meal
- 1/4 c. melted butter
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 c. milk

Cut ham in thin wedge-shaped slices and brown on both sides in hot skillet.

Sift flour, baking powder, sugar and salt together. Add the corn meal. Combine egg, milk and melted butter, add to dry ingredients and pour over browned ham. Bake in a moderately hot oven about 30 minutes, or until corn bread is baked. Serve with tomato sauce:

Tomato Sauce

- 1 pt. canned tomatoes
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1 tsp. dry mustard
- 1 onion sliced
- 2 T. butter
- 2 T. flour
- 1 tsp. brown sugar

Cook tomatoes with seasonings and onion 10 minutes, force through sieve—there should be one cup. (Tomato in strainer may be used in soup.) Melt butter, stir in flour, gradually stir in strained tomato and stir till mixture boils and thickens, then cook three minutes longer, stirring occasionally. This sauce combines well with meat loaf, scrambled eggs, and cooked navy or kidney beans.

Canned vegetables hold a rightful place as an accompaniment to the meat or fish being served. They are usually served with butter or cheese sauce, and for variety they may be creamed, escalloped (combined with white sauce, sprinkled with bread crumbs and baked), or several kinds may be combined and baked in a casserole. Canned vegetables are also used to advantage in stews, soups, meat pies and loaves, and in casserole dishes that contain spaghetti or noodles. Serve each vegetable in as many different ways as possible. Before long, you'll be originating some clever recipes of your own which will doubtless arouse your family's delight.

Sweet and Sour Beans

- 1 T. minced onion
- 1 T. brown sugar
- 2 T. melted fat
- 1 T. vinegar
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- Dash of cinnamon
- 1 pt. canned green beans

Brown the onion in the fat. Add the sugar, salt, cinnamon and vinegar. Add entire contents of the jar of beans. Simmer until the liquid is reduced about two-thirds. Beans prepared in this fashion are delicious with cold meats.

Parsnip Cakes

- 4 c. cooked parsnips
- 1 egg, beaten
- 2 T. melted butter
- 1 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/4 c. flour

Mash parsnips, add well-beaten egg, and beat till light and fluffy. Add salt, melted butter, and flour, mixing well. Drop by spoonfuls on greased hot griddle and brown on both sides. Serves four to six.

Lima Beans Casserole

- 1 qt. canned lima beans
- 2 c. sliced carrots
- 2 medium sized onions, sliced
- 1 pt. canned tomatoes
- 4 T. butter
- 2 T. brown sugar
- Salt and pepper to taste

Combine above ingredients, including liquid in which beans were canned. Place in a casserole and bake in a moderate oven about 25 minutes.

Southern Corn Custard

- 2 c. canned corn
- 2 T. melted butter
- 1/2 tsp. sugar
- 3 eggs
- 2 c. milk
- Bread crumbs
- Salt and pepper to taste

Slightly beat eggs, add to the corn. Melt the butter and with the milk, add the corn and eggs. Stir well. Add the seasonings and sugar. Pour into a well greased casserole, sprinkle with bread crumbs, dot with butter and set casserole in a pan of hot water. Bake in a very slow oven (250 Fahr.) about 40 minutes or until custard is set.

If you find that you lack variety in winter vegetables try serving them with cheese sauce. Just add one-half pound grated Canadian cheese to two cups medium white sauce and serve like gravy.

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EATON'S

One-dish Specials

By ELLA E. HALL

MAIN dishes must provide a generous amount of the day's quota of protein, needed for good vigorous health.

One of the easiest ways to get a meal is to pop everything into one pot, kettle or casserole. But "everything" must be satisfactory and appetizing. The pot, kettle and casserole meals help us greatly in carrying out a good standard of nutrition. Do not forget flavorsome stews, hearty chowders and hot dishes using left-overs. Most of these are meals that require little watching these busy days. No woman has to worry about whether her family will eat stew if it is appetizingly prepared without overcooking the vegetables.

Sometimes it is difficult to introduce new vegetables to the family tastes. Try combining the new vegetables into a hot dish and the flavor may be improved. Green, yellow, and other vegetables are used in most stews and soups. To preserve their vitamins and minerals adding at the last just in time to cook them, and no sooner, is the best.

A good beef stew has great appeal to a hungry family. Never boil a stew... let it simmer gently for superb, juicy tenderness and well-rounded flavor. You get that wonderful, inviting color that every good stew has by browning the meat before adding any liquid or vegetables. It improves the flavor too.

Beef Stew

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1 to 1½ lbs. boneless beef (chuck, neck or flank) | 1 bay leaf |
| 2 T. flour | 2 tsp. salt |
| 4 T. lard | 4 cloves |
| 1 c. chopped onions | 1 c. celery |
| 2 c. boiling water | 4 carrots |
| | 4 small or 3 medium potatoes |

Roll meat in flour and brown with onion slowly for 15 minutes. Add cloves and bay leaf, half the water and half the salt. Cover and simmer for 1½ hours. Add vegetables, remaining water and salt, cover up again and cook another 30 minutes. Thicken the gravy if desired.

Sausage Lima Bean Casserole

For a quick supper dish cut one dozen sausages which have been slightly browned in a frying pan, into 1-inch pieces and combine them with a tin of lima beans. Top with grated bread crumbs browned in the fat from frying the sausages. Cook about one-half hour. Serve baked apple with cream for dessert.

Sausage Tomato Rice

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| ½ c. uncooked washed rice | 1 lb. sausage |
| 1 can tomato soup, plus 1 c. hot water | A little onion, salt and pepper |

This is our family favorite supper dish containing sausages.

Place sausage and rice in casserole, add liquid and seasonings. Cover and cook until rice is cooked, over one hour. Remove cover the latter part of cooking to brown sausage well. Stir once or twice while cooking.

Beef and Ham Loaf

Mix together:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2 c. minced, cooked beef | 1 egg, well beaten |
| 2 c. minced, cooked ham | Salt and pepper taste |
| 1 c. soft breadcrumbs | ½ c. stock or left-over gravy |
| ½ c. tomato catsup | |

Decorate the pan with three hard-cooked eggs. Pack the mixture into a loaf pan, and press it down well. Bake in a moderate oven 45 minutes. Serve either hot or cold.

Baked Jumbo

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| ½ lb. salt pork, ½ lb. beef, ground together | 1 c. canned tomatoes |
| 2 large onions, chopped fine | 2 tsp. salt |
| 1 c. uncooked rice | ½ tsp. pepper |
| | ½ tsp. thyme |
| | 1 tsp. sugar |

Mix all ingredients together in a large greased casserole. Cover and bake in a moderate oven, 350 degrees for 2½ hours. This is an excellent dish for a hungry family.

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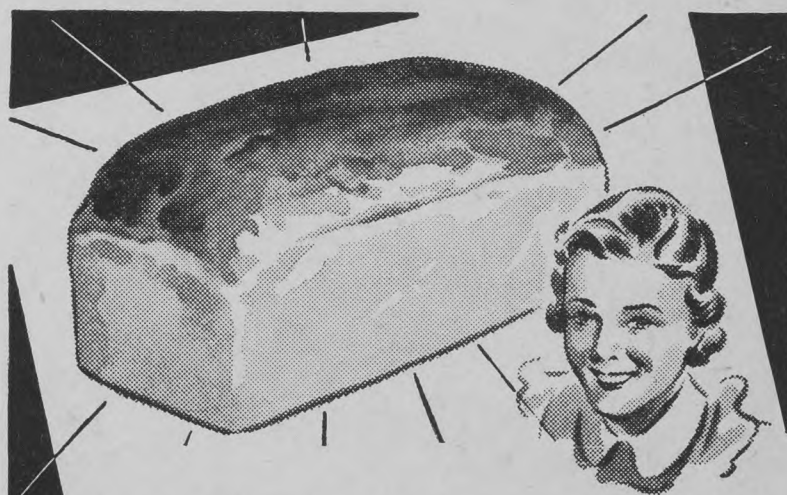
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1 1/2 cups milk
1 egg
1 cup sifted flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon soda

Add All-Bran to molasses and milk; let soak for 15 minutes. Beat egg; add to first mixture. Sift flour, salt and soda together; combine with All-Bran mixture. Fill greased muffin pans two-thirds full. Bake in moderately hot oven (400° F.) about 20 minutes.

What a rich, satisfying flavour you get when golden molasses and toasty All-Bran get together in a tender hot

muffin! And what a deliciously mouth-melting texture! That's because All-Bran is milled to make the delicate shreds soft and tender. Enjoy these grand muffins with a glass of milk for a bed-time snack...or spread them with jam for the youngsters when they come home from school. Get Kellogg's All-Bran today. 2 convenient sizes at grocers. Made by Kellogg, London, Canada. Helps keep you regular—naturally!

Kellogg's All-Bran

Keeping That Young Look

Keep a song in your heart if you want to keep your face young and happy, and your eyes bright

By LORETTA MILLER



Makeup, delicate in tone, is used by lovely Teresa Wright, film star.

THE woman of forty-five and over who prides herself on looking young for her age, may or may not deserve credit for her appearance. Some women naturally retain their youthful looks longer than others, while a few look old far beyond their years. Worrying about one's appearance definitely is not the solution to any problem of good looks. But applying common sense measures which will help overcome the visible evidence of advancing years is one big step in the right direction.

Are you approaching forty-five, fifty, sixty? What is your outlook on life? Are you cheerful, and do you try to keep your heart happy? Have you a hobby? Are you interested in what other people are doing? Do you truly love your friends? If "yes" is your answer to these questions, the chances are you are holding fast to a bright, youthful look. For nothing dulls the eyes, hardens the facial expression and makes deep lines in the face quite as quickly as do unfriendliness, sadness, a disinterested life, and a life without love for your fellow man.

Good Grooming

In addition to possessing the youthful radiance that comes from a happy heart, it is necessary to give attention to the fundamentals of good grooming and to apply the common sense measures referred to above. And because the hands are generally the first to show their age, let me suggest a quick schedule which will help keep or make them soft and smooth. I know you probably don't have time to pamper your hands with cream or lotion every time you take them out of the dishpan or washtub. But during the cold weather, try to give them an application of a soothing and smoothing agent, and a brief massage at night before going to bed. If your hands are extremely rough and have a "weather-beaten" look, give them an added covering of cream, then wear a pair of loose-fitting cotton gloves while you sleep. Apply this nightly routine as often as necessary.

Another schedule followed by many possessors of pretty hands consider this a most important plan for keeping or making the hands youthful: Lather a hand brush well, then scrub the hands until they are pink. This gentle scrubbing acts as a massage. It stimulates circulation to the fingertips and, it is believed, may even have an effect on keeping the nails strong. Finally rinse off all soap, dry the hands, and massage over them a little cream or lotion.

Many women have asked if anything can be done to prevent the hair from losing its youthful lustre. Although the hair may not turn grey, it may become dull, streaked and faded. Also, as it loses

its lustre it also seems to lose its flexibility and becomes difficult to handle. In many cases daily brushing has solved this problem. Brushing acts upon the hair much as exercise acts upon the body: it limbers it up.

Sagging shoulders, flabby upper arms, and thick waistlines are general indications of the matronly body. These conditions, let me hasten to add, can and should be guarded against and the woman who tolerates these figure-faults is completely responsible for them. (These are harsh words, I know, but they are true.) Guarding against sagging or slumped shoulders one must remember to keep her back straight, her chin high, and her abdomen in. It is impossible for the shoulders to get out of position when the chest and abdomen are in position. This correct posture should be maintained at all times.

Upper-body Exercise

Here is an exercise which will help overcome slumped, sagging shoulders and a generally old-looking upper-body: *Stand erect with arms stretched straight out in front of your body at shoulder level, and with palms of hands down. Keep your chin up and eyes straight ahead. Next, slowly raise your arms until your fingers point heavenward. Hold for a second, then, without bending your body, lower the arms back of you as far as you can. Return your arms to original position. Bring your arms down slowly. Now, with palms of hands forward, push your arms back and up as far and as high as you can. Try to do this without bending your elbows. You'll feel your shoulders raise, and there will be a slight strain across your upper chest which will be evidence that the correct muscles are being put to work. Return your hands to original position beside your body. Repeat the entire exercise from * through, ten times. Do this once each day, more often if you can. If you haven't time to do it through ten times, by all means do it as often and as many times as possible. You will find this routine restful and relaxing. Try it sometime when you are tired and want to feel refreshed in a hurry.

The Use of Makeup

Should the woman with grey hair, who is frankly fifty or more, use makeup? Dye her hair? Use colored nail polishes? The answers to each of these questions can only be honestly given by the individual. Quite sincerely your beauty editor feels that it gives the average woman a lift, raises her morale, if she uses these various makeup items most carefully. Cheeks tinted a delicate blush, with lips and perhaps fingernails to match, go beautifully with grey hair and the soft, sweet expression of the woman of fifty. Again, let me say, cosmetics for the matron (like those for the 'teen age girl), should be used so lightly that their applications are barely visible. And although it isn't altogether fair to impose my opinions on the woman who insists upon dyeing her hair, I do believe it looks a bit incongruous to see the flaming red hair of a young girl on a woman. The bright red of hennaed hair does not go with the facial expression. However, if the hair can be brightened, given a lustre, and kept in good health, it will, in almost every instance, go with the expression and personality of the woman of fifty. Also, when the figure is kept young and erect, the eyes bright, the teeth in good repair, the hairdo up-to-date, the hands soft and white and the expression cheerful, one's shade of hair is truly of little importance.



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Children's Underwear

Points to keep in mind when you go shopping for garments for the family

By DORIS J. McFADDEN

KEEPING children supplied with underwear has become an acute problem. In our climate, children and babies must have warm underwear. The Wartime Prices and Trade Board assures us that necessary steps are being taken to relieve the shortage, and has published figures, based on exhaustive surveys, on the "essential needs" for, and the present production of, children's underwear. New production schedules have now been set which it is believed will more than meet the "essential needs" of Canadian children for underwear. These "essential needs" vary somewhat from our demands as Canadians have become accustomed to a plentiful supply and we have now to learn to get along on a minimum requirement. The present situation has arisen from a combination of increased demand and decreased supply.

The increased demand has resulted from several things. In the first place, during wartime there are always more babies. There are over 50,000 more Canadian babies a year now than there were ten years ago. Secondly, there are more people with money. These people want more clothes and more new clothes which means there are fewer people wearing second-hand and "hand-me-down" garments and more people doing extra buying to be on the safe side. There is a great deal less home sewing being done as many mothers are working outside the home, many are in temporary homes and have no sewing machines, and all of them have more money to spend on new garments. Finally, there are the large demands made by the Armed Forces for underwear.

Even in peace times, Canada has never been self sufficient in yarns and now the available labor is attracted to war plants, consequently reducing production. Lack of shipping facilities also affects the raw materials available and the Armed Forces use large quantities of those that are available for many other articles, as well as underwear. The main problem, however, is to get the raw materials spun into yarn.

Steps Being Taken

To overcome these difficulties, the W.P.T.B. has taken the following steps. A minimum production quota was fixed for each mill and a number of manufacturers not previously making children's underwear were induced to go into production. Distribution to retail stores has been organized to ensure equitable supply to all areas. This increased production, plus the ordinary flow of goods to the trade, should go far, it is believed, in easing the situation.

Proper home care of precious underwear will lengthen its life. Especially with underwear which is part or all wool, much damage can be done in the laundry and then new garments are needed before they otherwise would be. Many mothers may find that the wartime wool is more susceptible to shrinkage and therefore it is advisable not to launder the children's underwear in the washing machine with the family wash. Instead, take a few extra minutes to launder by hand in luke-warm water. Work up a good suds with a mild soap and squeeze the garments through this suds. Never rub or use cake soap directly on the material as that will mat the fibres and shrink the material. Wring the garment out in a bath towel and hang up to dry at room temperature. Never dry in direct heat and never hang out to freeze. This will pay good dividends towards keeping the children warmly clothed.

The next step in home conservation is

to mend promptly and carefully for a stitch in time not only saves nine, but it also saves precious underwear.

When there are several children in the family, clothing can be very easily passed down the line from the largest child to the smallest but families of only one or two do not have this advantage of utilizing clothing which is out-grown. In some communities "Swap Sales" have been organized where mothers may trade in garments of no further use to them for garments which they need for their children. Where there are no such organizations, individual families may arrange to trade amongst themselves, passing the out-grown garments on to a smaller child in another family.

These ideas, when carried out, aid in relieving shortages. Nevertheless, the shortage exists, so for mothers who can find the time and the sewing machine, we have illustrated two ideas for making the youngster's underwear from Dad's or Mom's partly worn garments. Do not use garments that are worn out, for then your effort would be wasted, and be careful not to use badly worn spots. If the pattern cannot be so placed on the old garment as to avoid using these parts, then be sure to replace or reinforce them with "healthy" pieces taken from the left-overs after cutting.

When Making Over

When working with underwear, remember that the majority of these garments are of knit fabrics and that they will ravel when cut. To avoid this and to prevent stretching, trace a paper pattern off the original pattern, baste or pin this paper pattern to the material and stitch with the machine along the seam line. After stitching around all the pieces, cut along the edge of the pattern and tear off the paper. For bands, facings, plackets, etc., use woven material, as they will keep the cut edges of the knitted fabric firm and will give a stronger foundation for fastenings.

Particular attention should be paid to the fit of the child's undergarments, as improperly fitting garments may have a decidedly detrimental effect on the child's personality. The garment should not be bulky, for then it will get in the way of little arms and legs and slow them down. At the same time the garment needs to be large enough to allow for growth, otherwise it will soon be too tight and start to pull and irritate. There are known instances when an ill-fitting garment has been so irritating to a child that it has affected his grades in school.

If your child is under two or two and



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one-half years of age, you need not worry about the kind of fasteners you use, as long as they are substantial. However, the two and one-half to three-year-old is well on the way to dressing himself if the fasteners are easily available and easily grasped. Large buttons, about an inch in diameter, are most easily handled and should be in front whenever possible. If you can find elastic, a two-piece undergarment in which the drawers pull down will be the most satisfactory for little hands. Otherwise, a drop seat may be used which fastens by means of two bands which button in front.

If you are interested in remaking old clothes, the booklet "Remake Wrinkles" may be obtained, free of charge, from the Consumer Branch, W.P.T.B., Ottawa. This little booklet has many valuable ideas that may be used in any home.

PLANNING THE FARM HOUSE

Continued from page 48

A most important consideration is cupboard space. There was a linen or clothes closet at the end of the hall upstairs. That is of prime importance as is the question of lots of clothes closet space and possibly a store room in which to put trunks, extra flour and other household supplies, where one lives several miles from town. I consider a dumbwaiter of utmost importance. This saves a great number of trips to and from the basement. In your plan there was nothing to indicate a water system. If a cistern is used, would you use a force pump in the basement? Where would you put the tank?—A.M., Sask.

* * *

The trend is toward smaller houses of the bungalow and cottage type. The farm family, and especially the farm wife should not be denied the modern home with its conveniences. I can't see why the farmer should be 50 years behind the times. Your idea of the house and garage connected is a very good one, I think. Our municipality is surveyed for rural electrification. In due time we hope to be able to "plug in" our car heaters.—J.C.F., Man.

When We Build Again

THE home we live in intimately affects our lives every day. It has so many important angles. If there were a general discussion of the "likes" and "don't likes" of a home, I believe it ought to be a real public contribution, reaching out all over the country and affecting many lives, and others after them.

We are afraid R. D. Colquette's big floor space in kitchen and living-room would cause a sinking of heart in the busy housewife as she looks at the big floors to sweep, scrub and keep clean. We view the question of size from two angles; first the least space to scrub, dust and keep clean consistent with sufficient room without any display—the wife's health is important, hired girls are hard to get, they cost money, and sometimes you can't get them. In the second place, perhaps it is not realized how much more of everything it takes in almost every last thing to build on a large scale—siding, sheeting, paper, studs, plates, rafters, nails, joists, flooring, painting or stucco, plaster, calimine, linoleum, carpet, wallpaper, excavating, gravel, sand, cement and high-priced labor for all the different trades, and boarding all the men. The larger the house, the more it costs to heat. Mark well, we want a good house, and we are willing to pay for it, but we want to get the greatest convenience and comfort out of the amount of money we can afford to spend. When you build a

house, build a good one, even if it takes some years to pay for it.

We want a separate pantry, the many things that accumulate there on its shelves would not look good in the kitchen, and could scarcely be housed in the glassed-in shelves, and we want it insulated from the heat of the kitchen. There should be a lot of shelving and spaced close together to get the greatest amount of shelving within easy reach.

We want a house that will be warm in winter and cool in summer. We would have all outside walls and ceiling insulated with shavings. R. D. speaks of having personal experience—so have we. If the house was to be frame on the outside (stucco may be better) we would build it again the same as we did some thirty-two years ago—shiplap on the outside of the studs, three-ply heavy building paper (not tar paper, that hardens and cracks), and lap siding well painted. On the inside of the studs a lining of shiplap with three ply of heavy paper, inch strips nailed back of each stud for the lath and plaster. The shavings were not on the market when we built. We would have double storm windows on the kitchen and living-room.

Any outside north or west door should have a porch, or else an inside vestibule. Put at least two ply of paper under the shingles. We need a back porch for pails, washing machine and a lot of things that we do not want in the house proper. It need not have more than two ply of lumber and paper outside of the studs and nothing on the inside of the studs.

We want a bedroom downstairs. Firstly, for anyone that is sick, to get away from climbing up and down stairs. There comes a time in life when people just don't want to climb upstairs to go to bed. We think some of R. D.'s bedrooms unnecessarily large and consequently expensive to build. We are doubtful of his plan of not having a bathroom upstairs where all his bedrooms are.

We would have a hot water heater from the kitchen range connected with the kitchen sink and bathtub. To those who could afford to build and maintain an outlet for running water from the bathroom, toilet and kitchen sink—it, of course, is to be preferred; but we think there are a host of people who would find it convenient to have an inside sanitary dry closet, with the addition of an outside closet.

It is important to have the sink and bathtub as close as possible to the hot water heater at the kitchen range, so that it will not be necessary to draw off and waste a lot of water before getting hot water. If the bathtub is upstairs, have it just above the hot water heater in the kitchen. We find that an eight-inch pipe near the ceiling from the kitchen to the furnace flue draws off a lot of heat and occasional kitchen odors from the kitchen in hot weather. There is a stopper on the inside of the pipe. If we were building again we think that we would put in a hot water system for heating the house, although the hot air furnace is cheaper and easier to operate.

We would have a full sized basement and sixty barrel galvanized iron water tank close to a window where we could shovel sleigh loads of snow that would melt with the heat thrown off from the furnace—we know it works from about thirty years experience. Be sure to put large, generous sized footings under the posts in basement so that the house will not settle and let floors sink, plaster crack, and doors twist so that they will not open or shut without binding.—David Watson, Sask.

The farming population of the Dominion is about 3,000,000; the number of occupied farms in 1941 was 733,000 and 92 per cent of these had no bathing or related facilities. Throughout Canada only 20 per cent of farm dwellings have electrical facilities.

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Chapped Lips

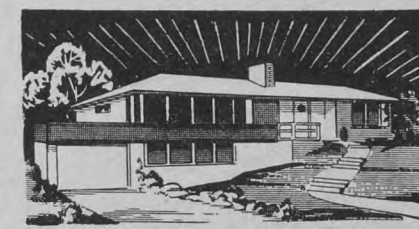


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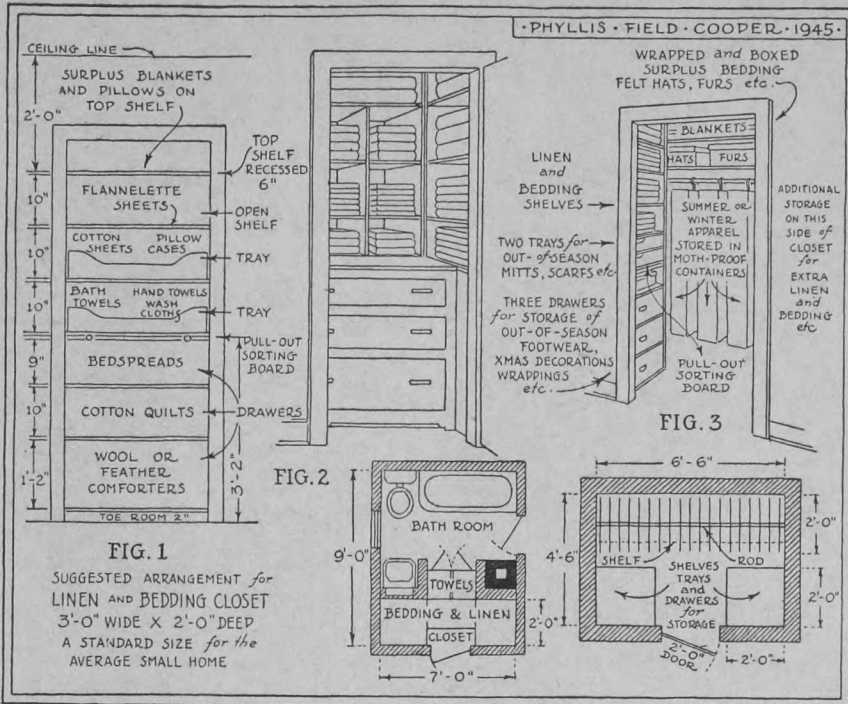
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Planning Linen Cupboards

By PHYLLIS FIELD COOPER

PHYLLIS FIELD COOPER, 1945



WITH few exceptions, the ideal location for the family linen closet is on the same floor as the bedrooms and opening directly into a hall, making it readily accessible at all times.

Though no two families require quite the same layout for the storage of either their linen or garments, certain standards in layout and dimensions, however, have been accepted as adequate for most households (see Fig. 1 in sketch). A further question arises which must be solved individually; shall the linen closet be planned to include the "out-of-season" bedding such as blankets, wool comforters and extra pillows, or shall these be stored in the closet planned for the "out-of-season" wearing apparel?

Another matter which bears attention is that of providing storage accommodation for surplus bedding required only occasionally for the unexpected guest or that "extra" hired man. In some households, a large cedar chest takes care of this problem.

It is well to bear in mind at the outset, that whatever plans are made for the storage of garments, linen and bedding, be sure to give the problem most careful thought beforehand, if mistakes and future irritating inconveniences are to be avoided.

It is generally conceded that for the average household, a "reach-in" type of linen closet measuring three feet in width by two feet in depth and to the ceiling in height, is ample accommodation for all linen and bedding (see Fig. 1 in sketch). We have also suggested in this sketch, one satisfactory way of spacing shelves, trays and drawers though it is advisable that this be worked out individually to fit the particular requirements of a family.

In arranging piles of sheets, pillow cases and towels, it will be found easier to handle them if the piles are kept low, and there should be anywhere from two to six inches of space between the articles and the next shelf above. It is also a good idea to keep the least frequently used items on the upper shelves and those most frequently required, within easy reach.

There are many ways in which linen closets may be planned. In Fig. 2 (see sketch), a plan for a "step-in" linen closet is suggested for the rural home that has a bathroom and an L-shaped hall. By looking over both the perspective sketch and the accompanying floor plan, it will be noted that the middle centre section of the closet accommodates face and bath towels and can be

conveniently reached from the bathroom.

The shelves on either side take care of all the bedding and linen for a large household, with three centre drawers for the storage of the "out-of-season" bedding. The counter above the drawers is 18 by 30 inches, making a most convenient "sorting table" when putting away the linen and bedding. At the base of this counter two inches of "toe room" has been provided.

In planning for the "out-of-season" clothes closet for the rural home, we had in mind three important considerations: First, the question of available space—to make a single unit of space do the work of two separate units. This was done by planning a combination closet for both "out-of-season" wearing apparel and bedding, as well as the linen and bedding in daily use; second, to provide adequately for the storage of everything in the way of apparel, accessories (mitts, caps, scarfs and footwear), Christmas decorations and wrappings, as well as all household linen and bedding; third, to make everything as readily accessible as possible when needed, in order to save time and avoid confusion (see Fig. 3 in sketch).

In the perspective sketch (Fig. 3) we have indicated the use of moth-proof apparel containers hung from a metal pole 72 inches from the floor—these for storing the "out-of-season" suits, coats and dresses which were first thoroughly cleaned before being put away.

On the one side, three lower drawers (see Fig. 3) have been used for the storage of all "out-of-season" footwear, party and Christmas decorations and wrappings and other items requiring storage space when not in use. On the right side, the three drawers contain a certain amount of extra bedding, while on the upper shelves has been stored the "out-of-season" bedding, well wrapped and boxed.

A "pull-out" type of linen sorting board is always a convenience in any linen closet and has been built-in just under the trays to the left of the entrance (see Fig. 3).

Four trays (two on each side) in this closet provide ample storage for all the family's mitts, gloves, scarfs, leggings and so forth (see Fig. 3).

The fact that this combination closet was built primarily for "out-of-season" wearing apparel and bedding waived the necessity of having either direct outside light or ventilation. The door has been swung so that it opens toward a hall window. A flash-light provides the necessary illumination.

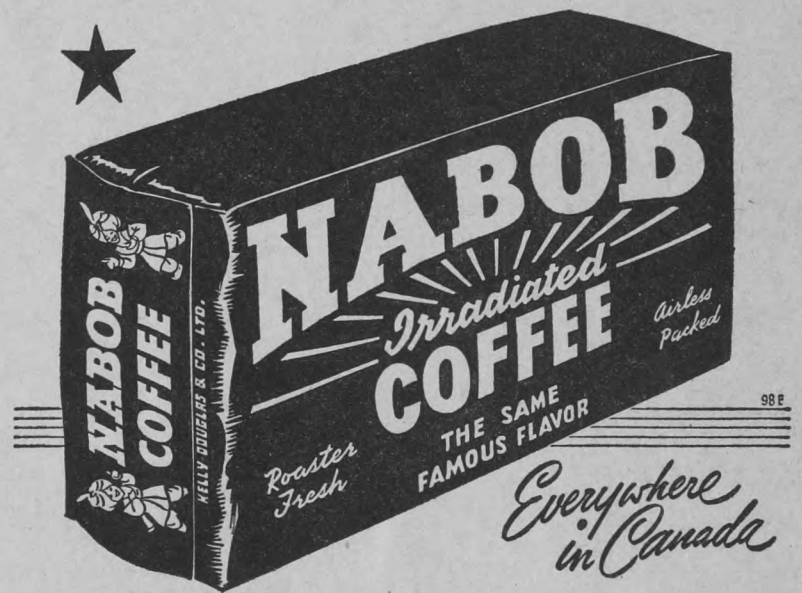
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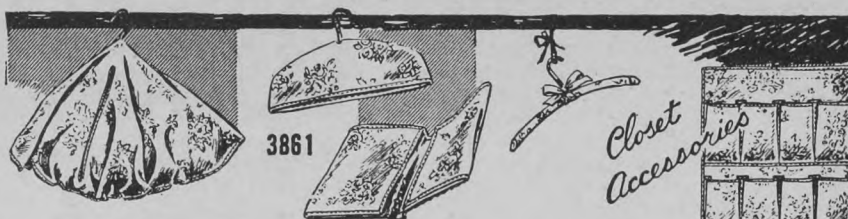
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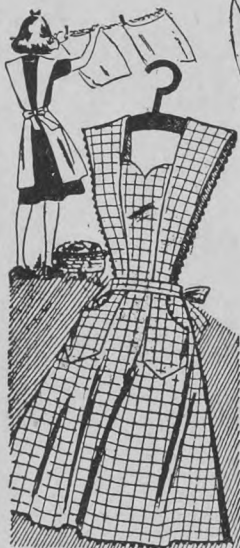


No. 3861—Closet accessories to help keep things tidy. Make them in gay floral chintz. They make a nice gift. Pattern is cut in one size. Shoe bag requires $1\frac{3}{4}$ yards 35-inch material, $6\frac{1}{4}$ yards binding; laundry bag, $\frac{7}{8}$ yard; case for hosiery, etc., $\frac{3}{8}$ yard.

No. 2624—Layette essentials for the newcomer that includes everything "it" will need. Garments cut for comfort and are easy to make. In one size, each requiring little fabric. See pattern for requirements.

No. 2787—A parade of elephants round the skirt of this youngster's pinafore. The applique is included in the pattern and the children will love it. Cut in sizes, 2, 4, 6 and 8 years. Size 4 requires $1\frac{3}{4}$ yards 35-inch fabric and $3\frac{3}{4}$ yards of ric rac.

2787
SIZES 2-8



No. 3774—Pretty apron with a new angle. Designed with as much fashion as a dress. Wide shoulders emphasized by ric rac. Cut in small, medium and large sizes. Medium size requires $2\frac{1}{2}$ yards 35-inch fabric with $4\frac{1}{2}$ yards ric rac.

No. 3438—Cozy for winter for the littlest girl or grown woman. Nice in flannelette, rayon or satin or print. Cut in sizes, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 48 inches bust. Size 36 requires $4\frac{1}{2}$ yards 39-inch fabric.

No. 2699—Slightly different style, cut in sizes 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. Sizes 8 requires $3\frac{1}{4}$ yards 35-inch fabric.

No. 2566—Softly fitted basque with new detail of bare neck. Vertical shirring at midriff gives small waist effect. Lovely in prints or solid colors. Cut in sizes 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 requires $3\frac{1}{8}$ yards 39-inch fabric.

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3438
SIZES 12-48

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2566
SIZES 10-20

2597
SIZES 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 18

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THE COUNTRY BOY AND GIRL

My Valentine

By AUDREY MCKIM

The girls call him Freckles,
Spots, Gingerbread—
The boys call him Carrots,
Or just plain Red.
But I think his freckles
And red hair are fine,
So I'm going to choose him
For my valentine!

Little Mouse's Valentine

By MARY GRANNAN.

LITTLE MOUSE lived in the school house. His home was under the great wide stairs that the children ran up and down all day. He knew most of the children. He watched them through a crack in the stair case. He knew the Caretaker of the school. Each night after the children all went home, Little Mouse would come out and scamper around and talk to the Caretaker. The Caretaker told him many things. He told him that the round thing up on the teacher's desk, was a globe . . . and a globe was just the same as a map that hung on the wall.

Little Mouse laughed at that, and said they didn't look the same. And the Caretaker told Little Mouse that the chalk that lay along the blackboard was not to eat, but to mark with. This struck the little mouse funny too. But he liked finding out things about school, and he got to know about everything in his favorite room. That was the room with all the pictures . . . and building blocks and sticks to count, and colored balls, and small children. And most everyday there was something new. And then one night there came the most exciting thing of all he had seen. It was a big box . . . all trimmed with ribbons and bright pink paper and red hearts . . . He looked the lovely big box over and then he climbed up to the top of it. . . He found a hole. A long hole. He put his eye to the hole and looked in, and then he fell in, and then he cried out to the Caretaker. "Help . . . me . . . Oh help me. I've fallen into a big box of pictures . . . Help . . . help," cried Little Mouse.

The Caretaker was laughing as he put down his broom and lifted the lid on the big box . . . "My! My!" he said. "Don't you know better than to fall in here? What do you think you are—a Valentine?"

Little Mouse had never heard of a valentine before, and he said "No . . . I think I'm a mouse and I don't know what a valentine is."

"Well I'll tell you," said the Caretaker. "A valentine is a message of love. The messages with pretty pictures are posted in this pretty box, just like it was a Post Office."

"Little Molly, you know Molly?"—and Little Mouse nodded . . . "well Little Molly sent this one to Janey Holmes . . .

"Roses red
Violets blue
Janey Holmes
I love you."

Little Mouse sighed. "I wish somebody would send me a valentine. I wish somebody loved me."

The Caretaker laughed again. "Lots of people love you Little Mouse. All the children love you, but I know they didn't even dream you'd like a valentine."

"Well I would," said Little Mouse.

"Well I'll tell you what I'll do," said the Caretaker. "I'll write a note on the board here and tell them that you would like to get a valentine from them, and we'll see what will happen. Tomorrow is Valentine's Day, and I think you'll find a valentine in the box for you after school tomorrow."

So the Caretaker wrote the note on the board. . . "Dear Children, the little mouse under the stairs would like a valentine from you. How about it?"

The next night after school it was an excited little mouse who put his eye to the hole in the valentine box. . . It was empty except for something gold color which smelled all the world like golden cheese. "Caretaker! Caretaker! come . . . come quickly! See what I've got. The Caretaker lifted the lid of the box and there was a little cheese heart trimmed with tiny bits of nuts which read this message. . .

FEBRUARY, with its "twenty-eight days clear" is our little month. There is the little remaining memory of Christmas—a new tie, skates or scarf and sometimes only a little memory of a New Year's Resolution to improve a school average or to be more thoughtful of others. Time to check up on that!

February is the month for indoor games and outdoor sports and Saturday afternoon will generally find you practising fancy curves or wobbling and falling on the ice or confidently shooting the puck through to the goal posts.

Hockey on the ponds during free time is one of our truly Canadian sports, and is really the boy's field but girls do come in handy to "fill in." They may be a little awkward with the stick handling but the boys follow the puck like professionals and whizz by to score a goal before the girls can get themselves and the hockey stick righted.

My Granny once told me that "in her day" she always had four medium-sized baked potatoes ready before she set out for skating on the nearby pond. She wrapped each potato separately in newspaper and slipped two into each skating boot. When she put on her warm skates at the pond, she transferred the potatoes to her shoes. Then she had warm shoes after skating.

Yes, skating and playing hockey on the ponds is fun for everyone. But be sure to ask Mother's or Dad's opinion on whether the ice is solid enough for safe skating.

"Little Mouse . . . we send to you
This Cheesy heart so sweet . . .
We thought you'd like a Valentine
That was good to eat.

From the children."

The little mouse looked at the Caretaker. "Caretaker," he said, "a school house is the nicest place to live in the world because children are the nicest people in the world." And Little Mouse sat down and nibbled his valentine happily and then went back to his nest under the stairs.

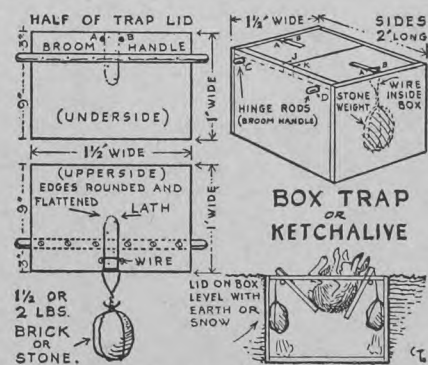
Rabbit Box Trap

HAVE you ever watched the wild rabbits play on the snow by moonlight and wished that you could have one for a pet? Here is a box trap that will catch as many as hop on it and without hurting them at all.

Take or make a box about 1½ feet wide, 2 feet long, and 2 feet deep. Any kind of lumber will do. The lid is the important part. It is made in two halves which fit nicely inside the top of the box. Suppose each lid to be 1 foot by 1½ feet. With screws attach a piece of broom handle flattened a little on one side, to the underside of each lid about three inches from the outside edge as in diagram.

To the upper side of the lid nail a short piece of lath. On each side of it and one-half inch from the edge of the lid, drill two small holes (A & B) and slip through two feet of light strong wire looping it over the lath. To this wire is attached the weight.

Now on both sides of the box drill holes as at C and D large enough to let the broom handle turn easily. Pry one side of the box out an inch or so, slip broom handle in place with the weight inside the box and the trap is ready. Two nails should be driven into the edge of the box and bent over the lid as at



J and K to keep the lids from lifting and letting the rabbits escape. The counter weight must not be too heavy or the lids will not go down under the rabbit's weight.

In winter dig the box down level with the top of the snow in a spot where the rabbits play. A few poplar branches cut off and thrown down will attract the rabbits. If you wish to catch larger animals like jack rabbits, skunks or coons, make the trap about 1½ times as large. Good hunting!—C.T.

My Snapshot Album

I HAVE other albums of pictures, but these are plainly mounted and they're quite dull and drab in comparison to that of my latest. Here is how I bright-

Ann Sankey

ened up this special snapshot album of mine.

I began on a small album which I intended to fill with snapshots of my brother in uniform—all on his life in the army. On the first page there is a picture of a soldier with all his equipment with each part marked and named in ink. Above the picture is printed, "A soldier needs all the equipment shown here, and many other things." Below it is written, "\$5.47 keeps a soldier in reserve, in Canada, for one day; \$8.22 keeps him in action overseas for one day. All these things cost money. \$114.82 will outfit one soldier." This is written on colored paper, cut to fit the album. The next page reads "Royal Canadian Engineers," after which comes Bud's regimental number, etc. Two crossed flags in color decorate the page.

TRACKING



ALL wild animals are authors, and every minute of their lives they are writing a book that other animals and you too may read, if you have patience to learn their secrets. Their language is not written in handwriting, but in foot prints, and their stories we call tracks.

I would like to tell you of the most fascinating game in the world, a game of which you will never grow tired, a game you can play anywhere in the world wherever there is a bit of open country, a dusty road or a stretch of snowy woods. This is the game of tracking and it is as old and perhaps older than the first man.

The wind has died down and the fields lie white and glistening with snow. When you have finished your chores, put on a warm jacket and strike out for an afternoon of exploration. As you climb through the fence notice the little dimples running in loops and lines among the grass tufts and here and there disappearing under the snow. (Figure 1.) These are the tracks of the field mice, and if your time is short you need not go any further for in an hour or two you may learn from studying these tracks more of the lives of these mice than you ever suspected, and perhaps something new that no naturalist has ever discovered.

Today we will suppose that the whole afternoon is yours and we will keep on. Who knows what surprises may lie in wait! As you cross the open field and pass close to the hulk of an old straw-stack, perhaps you see off to one side a long, crooked line of tracks like this (Figure 2). You are in luck, for this is the track of a fox, and his is the most fascinating of trails to follow. See how he has headed toward the old stack, and if you follow the trail you will see how his tracks circle cautiously around

On the next page is "This album is dedicated to my brother—by kid sister Evie, January, 1940." Beside this, to one side, is a full length picture of myself cut away from a snapshot.

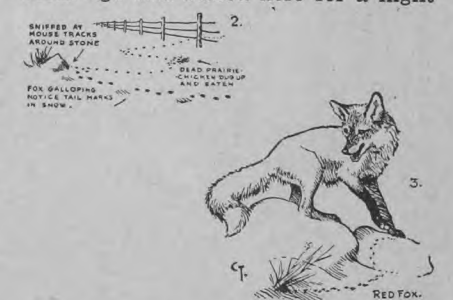
The few following pages hold a brief biography of brother's life in the army, from the time of his enlistment. There's a few pages left for additional notes which are added from time to time. On the following page I have a small photograph of my brother sent from England, while beside it is a snapshot of the Canadian Engineers' insignia.

The rest of the album holds the snapshots of my brother and his friends in various training camps throughout Canada and also some from England. These pages are decorated with patriotic emblems and other colorful material cut out of magazines. From magazines I cut out alphabetical letters and I placed these on the pages in appropriate reading for the snaps contained. For instance, there's "At Petawawa Camp," "Dundurn Camp," "With the boys in Debert, Nova Scotia," "A Merry Christmas at home," "While on leave at home," and "In England Now."

The mounting corners I made myself, from colored art paper and after my own design and the folds are glued down. These may be made in an assortment of colors and will touch up any page with delightful color. For additional trimming, I cut out small mounting frames in various shapes (heart, square, diamond, etc.) and mounted them over cut-down snapshots, thus using up the gaps when ordinary snapshots would not fit in. The result of my now colorful album is something I take great pride in and never fail to show admiring friends. Some of them have made their own.—Evie Prehodchenko.

the stack, then whizz-up the side to the top!

Here is his lookout tower, for from this high stack nothing that moves in the fields around can escape his ever watchful, yellow eyes. A saucer-shaped hole in the snow tells you he has curled up here to rest, but look! There he has left the nest with a great bound down the straw stack and raced away over the field. Something has frightened him. It couldn't have been you for when you feel the tracks they are frozen and stiff, showing that they are many hours old. It may have been a false alarm, for within a hundred yards he is walking again. Now his tracks lead through the fence and what is this? Feathers? Bones! All that is left of a prairie chicken, one that he perhaps had killed weeks ago and buried here for a night



when the mice were hidden and nothing was to be caught. But now he is full fed, and hardly bothers to sniff at the tangled trails of the mice as his tracks lead off through the weeds along the fence and away. (Figure 3.)

Here I must turn back, but you have the afternoon before you, note-pad, pencil and ruler in your pocket, so follow on, and know, that every track you follow and measure and sketch; every hour you spend on the trail, will teach you new and wonderful things about the marvellous world around you, a world that many people never have seen, the world of the wild animals.—Clarence Tillenius.



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HERE it is, February, usually the coldest but fortunately always the shortest month in the year. Just to provide a little relief, we have given you a summer cover. But there are other reasons. This cover study is by an Alberta artist, Th. M. Schintz, R.R.2, High River. When the painting arrived we felt that we just couldn't wait till summer to use it. In it Mr. Schintz has caught the very spirit of the foothills, don't you think? A man couldn't paint a scene like that unless his lungs were full of the air of the cattle country. Great wide open spaces! There you have them; with a background of the distant Rockies. And in the foreground the fully accoutred cowboy, who might be singing, Don't Fence Me In.

We hope to have more covers from the brush of Mr. Schintz.

A B.C. subscriber compliments us on our fine covers but raises a point about the deer's antlers on the October issue. The antlers, he says, are on backward and this is also true of the deer hung up by the horns as portrayed in Straight from the Grassroots in the January number. The letter was passed on to our artist, Clarence Tillenius, who painted the cover. Now Mr. Tillenius is an outdoor man but he produced evidence that was even more conclusive than that. He placed on the editor's desk the skull of a deer with the antlers attached. On examining them, we found that he had reproduced them with faultless fidelity. We must, therefore, take the ground that the artist has won the case. Incidentally we asked him how he got that skull so clean. "That's easy," he replied. "Just clean the bones off roughly and the next summer put the skull on an ant heap. When the ants get through with it, it will be cleaner than a dog's tooth."

As to the deer in the cartoon, well, our cartoonist, Jimmy Simpkins, is a cartoonist, and cartoonists, like poets, are allowed a certain amount of license. Without it they couldn't be cartoonists.



WE didn't say so at the time, but when I. N. Skidmore sent in that photo of harvesting wheat in Nebraska, published last month, he also sent in the photo reproduced below. It was a photograph, all right, as an examination under the microscope proved. It shows what they can do in this matter of raising corn down in Nebraska. As quoted last month, Mr. Skidmore remarked that he is a truthful man and here is the second photograph to prove it. A camera couldn't lie if it would, and it wouldn't if it could. So we shall just have to take Mr. Skidmore's and the camera's word for it.



I WONDER if you have any report of lambs being born in January. If so, how early? We had one born on January 14 and another on January 26; both doing fine. Pretty good for Manitoba, eh?—Wm. Laird, (13 years old) R.R.5, Winnipeg.

MRS. E. J. S. COWAN, of Melbourne, Man., writes to tell us that she enjoyed the article, The Langtrys at Home, and had some acquaintance of Mrs. Langtry. Then she adds: "Perhaps you'll be interested to know that we have a copy of John Galt's Annals of the Parish, and also in a little incident connected with the book. The late Rev. E. Salter always stayed with us when in the district and one morning, when he came downstairs, he said he had been enjoying reading parts of the Annals. On a subsequent visit he informed us that he had been successful in obtaining a copy for himself."

WHEN we published that bit in the last issue about the rodents with the defective vision we asked for the words of that other classic, This is the residence that John constructed. Well, the response was most generous. The most perfect version, in the judgment of the judicial minds to which such weighty matters are submitted for decision, was supplied by W. C. Lidington, of Deloraine, Man. It runs this way:

"This is the domiciliary edifice erected by John. This is the fermented grain that was deposited in the domiciliary edifice erected by John." And so on until it winds up thus:

"This is the bold chanticleer who heralded the approach of morn with such vehemence as to awaken from slumber the ecclesiastical gentleman whose cranium was devoid of all hirsute adornment who united in the holy bonds of matrimony the individual whose raiment presented a torn and disintegrated appearance who sucked the sweet nectar from the ruby lips of the damsel of dejected mein whose lucrative occupation consisted of extracting the lacteal and nutritive beverage from the herbivorous female of the bovine race which with her corrugated protuberance considerably elevated into atmospheric space the sagacious scion of the canine genus which so irritated and annoyed the domesticated member of the feline tribe which completely annihilated the obnoxious vermin which masticated and digested the fermented grain that was deposited in the domiciliary edifice erected by John."

(Loud applause, or cheers, as they say in England.)

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FEBRUARY, 1945

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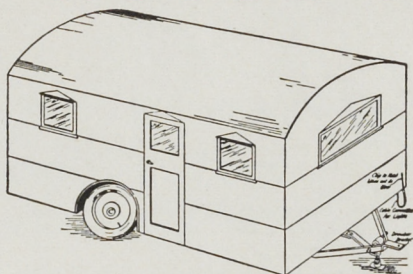
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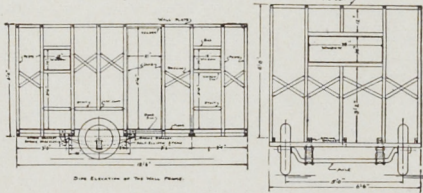
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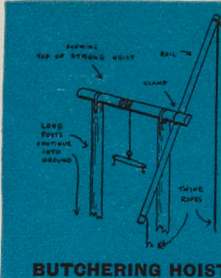


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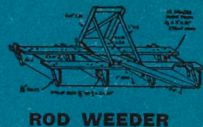


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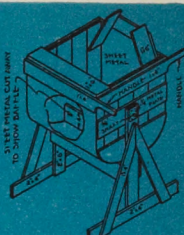
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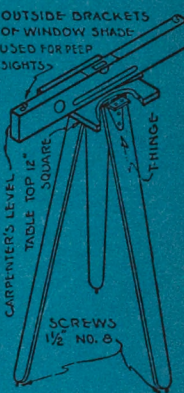
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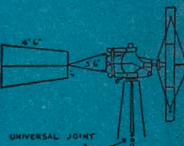
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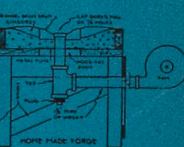
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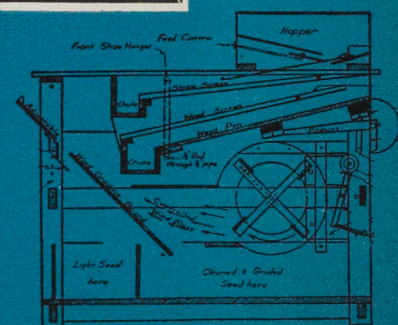
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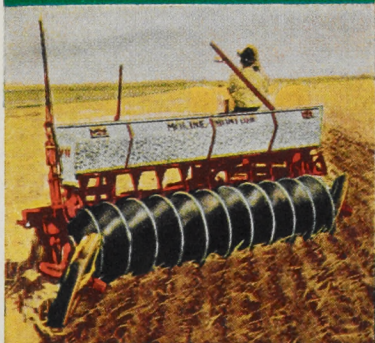
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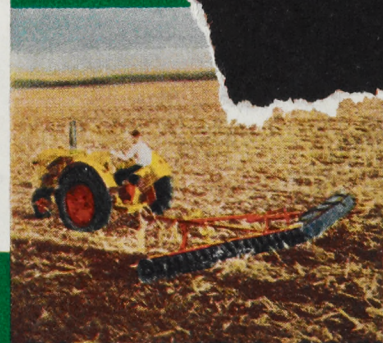


In many parts of our America, the land, the fertile fields, the pastures and the waste lands—all are covered with snow. In many places, the snow covers the sins of man to his land—but only for a while. When spring comes, many formerly fertile fields will show the marks of erosion by water, by frost and by the winds. Many good tillable acres, however, will be revealed and many with telltale marks of attention NEEDED. Action will be needed if that land is to remain fertile and free from erosion. Now is the time to plan to farm in such a way that not only will you produce more per acre, but also to keep the acres fertile for more crops to come *for yourself* and for your children and their children. It is time NOW to plan to do things to keep the top soil from going to the seas or blowing away. Let us think of China where in a period of less than 200 years most of the fertile acreage was destroyed by erosion in one form or another. If erosion is not one of your problems, it is still time to think of the fertility of the soil. During these war years, you may have taken more out of your ground than

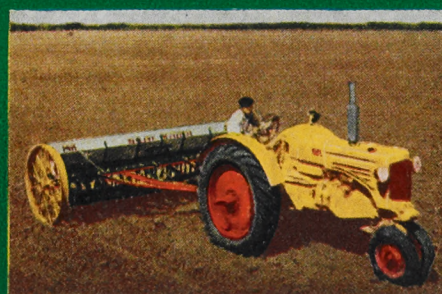
you have put back in. It is time now to think of restoring some of the fertility. During the time when most of China's fertile soil was destroyed and washed to the seas there were no modern methods or modern machinery to control the situation. That is NOT true here in America.

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